

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THE POLITICS OF CHRISTIANITY.
No. XXIV.

POLITICAL MONASTICISM.

"THERE is nothing new under the sun." The most grotesque whims of the day are but old follies brought from the lumber-room of forgetfulness, and polished up for the present occasion. All things born of the human mind have lived before—lived, and, to outward seeming, died—but, sharing the immortality of the source from which they spring,—perished only in the forms of their manifestation, to reappear in some other guise. The volume of to-day is but a revised edition of that of yesterday. The thought which shoots up within us, and which we welcome as the exclusive product of our own intellect, is but the development of some seed dropped casually into our souls, from plants which, long since, perhaps, flourished, blossomed, and decayed. Man's mind is a soil which, whilst it slightly modifies, never essentially changes those principles the germs of which are sometimes of purpose, sometimes by accident, cast into it. Every age has its prototype—every heresy, a progenitor in whose likeness it is born. No! "There is nothing new under the sun."

"Avoid politics" is the cant of no inconsiderable a section of the religious world. "That path is thickly strewn with snares—venture not into it! The charms which line it, the pleasures which are to be found in it, the ends to which it conducts, however fair, are fallacious. Apples of Sodom, tempting to the eye, but bitter to the taste, are the only fruit which Christian men can look to gather from that roadside. 'Let the dead bury their dead.' Worldly minds may heed worldly things. The cultivation of that inner life which is the breath of God, demands abstraction from the noise and turmoil of political contention. Shun it as you would shun enchanted ground!"

Aye! the soul of the monk is in the counsel—the same selfish pietism, the same cross-legged indolence of will, the same dreamy meditateness, the same preference of ease to conquest, the same spiritual voluptuousness, which in earlier days sought refuge from the temptations and distractions of worldly business, in the solitude of the desert, or the cloister of the monastery. One sees in fancy the shaven crown, the cowl, the girdle and the beads, of bygone times. Fancy, however, greatly deceives us. Look again! The dress is modern, precise, professional—the air authoritative—the gait officially majestic—and all outward appearances betoken one moving in a select and genteel circle of acquaintanceship. You would not, at first sight, take such to be the present type of old monasticism—but, reader, in good sooth, it is nothing more nor less.

There is a sphere of duties and responsibilities, of things waiting to be done, of consequences claiming to be undone, of opportunities for good, of temptations to evil, and of useful exercise to every sentiment and affection of a noble, philanthropic, and heaven-born nature—a sphere which men have designated "political." Have we not just explored it, noted its main features, and glanced at its claims? Is there not therein, we make bold to inquire, much work for embodied Christianity to do?—mistakes to be rectified—thick jungles in which cruelty and rapacity hide themselves, to be cut down?—broad wastes to be redeemed?—noxious swamps to be drained?—pure and beneficent principles to be introduced?—and rampant evils, the scourges of human peace, to be taken by the throat and destroyed? Who is to do this? If men claiming to have the mind of God are to shun this region, and leave it to the rank reproduction of its own vices, what hope is there of ame-

lioration? Thousands are dying in consequence of the pestilential atmosphere which it exhales. What! is no Christian man to care for them?—no interceding priest to swing aloft the censer of fragrant truth that the desolating plague may be stayed?

Out upon the sentimental pietism of these times, which ever, like an ailing gentlewoman, stays within doors, counts its own sighs, feels its own pulse, and nurses itself, with an anxious and peevish care, into a delicacy which makes its own life a burden! This outcast world of ours is not to be reclaimed by such boudoir agency. It needs something more manly, more heroic. Give us, O give us, instead of this queasy, lack-a-daysical, self-indulgent spirit, the faith which, seeing great dangers to be encountered for the sake of great good to be achieved, can sally forth in all weathers, and bear its message of truth into all quarters, more intent upon the fulfilment of its mission than upon escape from the perils to which it must needs expose itself! As where contagious fever reigns, a courageous will may venture unhurt when shrinking timidity would have imbibed the poison, so may a resolute Christianity pass safely on its errands of love through a polluted moral atmosphere, which would be all but fatal to susceptible and nervous quietists.

Reader, we have surveyed with you, in the light of divine revelation, the proper objects, structure, and functions, of civil government. Having done this, we ask with the more confidence, whether all that fairly comes within this sphere ought not to be matter of deep and thoughtful interest to those who care for the well-being of their fellow-men? Can he who "loves his neighbour as himself" voluntarily exile himself from this region? Ought not true religion to bestir itself here as actively, as systematically, as usefully, as elsewhere? Can we, without cowardice and treachery, lay aside any of the responsibilities of our position? Does it become us to estrange ourselves from anything which affects human progress? Let politics, then, have their due place in every Christian heart—not the highest, certainly, but one befitting their importance. Every sphere has its trials—politics as well as others; but they must be met and subdued, rather than avoided; for in this, as in other departments, a blessing is reserved for the man, not who escapes, but who "endures temptation."

THE FRENCH BAPTISTS.

(From the *Christian Record*.)

There is an end, for the present, to religious liberty in France. The Court of Cassation has settled that question. Two several appeals were made to its conclusive judgment, from the decisions of inferior tribunals, and those decisions it has confirmed.

One of these cases related to the Baptists of the department of the Aisne, and the other to the Protestants of Mansle. They were argued at length on Thursday, the 6th inst., and decided on the 7th.

The persecution directed by the public administration against the Baptists of the Aisne, was begun at the instigation of the Bishop of Soissons, within whose diocese they reside. His Lordship complained that they annoy his clergy and disturb with discussions the tranquillity of the population. "These attempts," he writes to the Prefect, "can have no other result than to agitate the public mind, and to produce dissensions as troublesome in a religious point of view as in relation to public order; and you will doubtless be of opinion that, besides their illegality, it is proper they should be opposed for the sake of the greater good." The Bishop having further condemned the poor Baptists as influenced by "an indiscreet zeal adverse to public order," concludes his letter by calling upon the authorities to be "pleased to take proper measures for preventing similar efforts from being renewed, and for putting a stop to all such meetings as those to which he refers." So little reliance is to be placed upon professions of Catholic liberality! To read the speech of Count Montalembert in the Chamber of Peers the other day, one might suppose this lay champion of Ultramontanism the apostle of liberty; and so it was also with the late Daniel O'Connell.

M. Delaborde, the counsel of the appellants, made out an irresistible case for them, were not corruption too rampant and universal in France to permit either reason or law to take effect. He began his argument by showing that the Baptists are, by doctrine and discipline, beyond the pale of the different creeds that are paid by the State in France. He then proceeded to claim for them the liberty secured, uninterruptedly, by constitutions and legislative acts from 1789 to 1830. According to M. Delaborde, this liberty once embodied in legislation, was never withdrawn; neither by the Concordat, which was anterior to the coronation oath, nor by the articles of the Penal Code in vain invoked

against it, since those articles, appertaining to an order of things comprising religious liberty, cannot for that very reason have annulled that liberty. The conclusion was, that liberty of worship had been handed down intact—as entire and unlimited in the Charter of 1830 as in the Constitution of 1791; that now, as in 1791, the Charter gives to every man the right of exercising the religious creed to which he is attached, and that no less to Baptists than to Catholics, Reformed, or Lutherans.

M. Delaborde employed with great effect another argument, in which, for want of space, we cannot so closely follow him. We refer to his denial that public meetings of more than twenty persons, for acts of worship, constitute unlawful associations, and fall under the condemnation of article 291 of the Penal Code and of the law of 1834. This part of the question may be considered as set at rest by the declaration of the Protestant Duke de Broglie, head of the Cabinet, in whose name the law of 1834 was presented, and who has thus explained, in the Chamber of Peers, the real intention of the Government:—"The Cabinet of that day said, by the mouth of the Keeper of the Seals, that, in their eyes, meetings for the exercise of worship were, by their very nature, exempt from the necessity of previous authorization; that the Charter constituted them exceptions from all preventive regulations; and he pressed for the rejection of amendments by entering into a formal engagement that the new law should not be applied to them." The Government advocate took much pains to mystify this very plain declaration. Listening to him, it might have been supposed that M. de Broglie's only object had been to make his peace with the Court of Cassation for having entertained so erroneous a view. The fact, however, is, that he made the remark in support of the petitions of the oppressed religionaries, and the speech which he delivered on the occasion, was reprinted entire for general circulation among the unauthorized sects, and is the daily textbook of their strongest arguments.

Between the two cases submitted for its judgment, the Court made a wide but wholly unfounded distinction. The Protestants of Mansle were acquitted, while the Baptists of Soissons were condemned. The practical effects of these conflicting decisions is, that, while a thousand or twelve hundred persons may meet together without any violation of law, the little meetings of the Baptists, often composed of less than twenty persons, constitute a formal infringement of the law. In the absence of the decrees of the Court, it might have been supposed desirous in instituting a distinction between creeds recognised and unrecognised, and of granting more liberty to the one than to the other; but the Court, in its decisions, makes the restrictions of article 291 of the Penal Code press on all creeds alike, impartially transforming the equality of slavery. The decision of the Court, in the case of the Baptists, contains this clause:—"If associations formed for religious purposes, might, without previous authorization, be established, in forms and in places agreeable to the parties, to profess doctrines and exercise a worship not recognised or not authorized, dangers might result to public order and public morals." From this it would appear, that even simple doctrines, as well as formal creeds or modes of worship, must be recognised and authorized before they can be professed!

THE FREE CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT EDUCATION.

—At the meeting of the Edinburgh Presbytery, on Wednesday last, Mr. Moody Stuart moved the adoption of an overture to the General Assembly, to the effect that the resolutions adopted at last Assembly, with reference to the educational grant from Government, should be re-considered, and especially the fifth resolution, which sanctioned the acceptance of that grant:—

He thought there was a question involved in the resolutions, which was, whether an alliance in things religious between the Church and an apostate Government was lawful, provided there was no interference with the religion itself; and then, if lawful, was it expedient? The rev. gentleman proceeded at some length to discuss whether this alliance was "in things religious;" and contended that both the Free Church and the State had declared that the education should be religious. He alluded to the religious qualifications, as to which the teacher would be examined, and said, that he did not discern any difference between this endowment of teachers of religion in a school, and the endowment of parochial ministers. Mr. Stuart next contended that the Government was "apostate." The Assembly had declared, to his mind, that the Government was "apostate." It is said the scheme was a sound and latitudinarian, inasmuch as it did not discriminate between the evangelized faith of Protestants, and the many deadly errors that went under the name of religion.

Dr. Burns moved, that the overture be not transmitted, which was seconded by Mr. Nisbet. Dr. Candlish then addressed the Presbytery at great length:—

With reference to the first proposition of Mr. Moody Stuart, that the Church was in alliance with the Government in a religious matter, he said, that a Church subsisting in any land had a relation to the Government *ipso facto*—by the mere fact of her subsistence; and was not only bound to pray for kings and princes, but was bound to admit their inspection in her courts, churches, and schools. He said, also, that the Church, in virtue of her relation to the Government of the country in which she subsisted, was not only entitled, but bound, to co-operate with that Government in any good work which that Government might propose to carry on. He denied, however, that the alliance in the case before them was susceptible of the construction put upon it by Mr. Stuart. To characterize

the acceptance of aid for a good work, from any quarter whatever, as involving a yoke or alliance, seemed to him to be a principle fraught with the greatest possible danger; and to say that such an acceptance of money involved the least shadow of responsibility for the conduct of the party who gave it, involved him (Dr. Candlish) in such a snare, that he fearlessly applied the maxim of the apostle, that a man must go out of the world altogether. The doctor then denied that the Church had entered on an alliance with Government in a religious matter at all, and contended that education should be sanctified by the Word of God and by prayer, but it was just as they insisted on their common meals being sanctified by these. He said at once, that education was a matter that belonged not to the Church, but to the State. It fell legitimately within the province of the Church, and she was quite warranted to prosecute an education scheme, but she was not bound to do it. As to the assertion of Mr. Stuart, that the Church was in alliance with an apostatising or apostate Government—while he looked with increasing horror at the tendency of the Government and rulers of this country with reference to Popery and Infidelity—he denied that the General Assembly had pronounced any opinion whatever on that point, but simply upon a particular measure of the Government.

Dr. Gordon argued on the same side; and, eventually, the overture was negatived without a division.

SEIZURES FOR CHURCH-RATES AT MAIDSTONE.—Several Dissenters have, during the past week, had their goods seized for church-rates; to maintain the expenses of a church holding enormous revenues, but yet not rich enough to support itself without "spoiling" the goods of other men, who do not agree with its doctrines, and who defray, unaided, the expenses of maintaining their own. This levying for church-rates is a grievous and sinful wrong, to which even the cover of law cannot give a colouring of justice. It must be as hateful to the true Christian, as it is repugnant to the better feelings of every honest man, of whatever creed; and cannot fail to draw down upon all engaged in such a transaction, that feeling of aversion with which the people of this country instinctively regard every action, public or private, which is oppressive, sordid, and mean. The persons who have been seized on are the following:—Mr. G. A. Bentlif, High-street; Mr. G. Edmett, ditto; Mrs. Edmett, Albion-place; Mr. Heming, High-street; Rev. H. H. Dobney, Marsham-place; Mr. Burch, Bank-street; Mr. Busby, Dover-place; Mr. Robinson, King-street; Mr. B. Wheeler, Albion-place; Mr. Woodward, Gabriel's-hill; Mr. Woolley, ditto; Mr. Briggs, Ashford-road; Mr. Fardon, Stone-street; Mr. G. Smith, Penenden Heath-road; Mr. Jacobs, Week-street.—*Maidstone Gazette.*

NEED TO REMODEL THE CHURCH.—In last week's *Manchester Guardian* appears a letter from Mr. Richard Potter, we believe one of those hopeful sons of the late consistently liberal Ald. Potter, who joined in the strange confederacy to foist Lord Lincoln upon Manchester, to the exclusion of Mr. Bright. The letter is important, as showing the sort of sentiments that are at work in the minds of the lay members of the Establishment. Mr. Potter says, that the upper classes in this country are attached to the Church, but she has little hold upon the middle and working classes. Without these the Church cannot hope to remain the favoured ecclesiastical corporation of the country, and if she ceases to be a national corporation, she must cease also to hold the property which the legislature has so often vindicated its claim to deal with. The problem with Mr. Potter then is, how are the middle and working classes to be gained to the Church? And his answer is, that the Church must cease to be a mere corporation of clergymen; that the laity must be admitted to have a voice in its affairs; and most of all must they enjoy what the Chevalier Bunsen has shown to be the indispensable condition of a Christian church, the choice of their pastors. The late Dr. Arnold esteemed the Chevalier Bunsen as the ablest man, and one of the most enlightened Christians he knew. The Chevalier's views on the relations of Church and State, and on the constitution of Christian churches, are profoundly studied by thoughtful men. The result, in Mr. Potter's mind, has been to raise the very question on which the Free Church of Scotland seceded from its connexion with the State. It was in resistance of patronage, and in vindication of the right of the people—though in a sense too restricted—to choose their ministers, that the earnest portion of the Scotch Church emancipated itself from State control. Mr. Potter is for asserting the same principle here. We hope that he will find thousands to concur with him.—*Sheffield Independent.*

ANGLICAN SUPERSTITION.—The east window of Coggeshall Church having been taken out that it might be beautified with crosses, &c., a kind of tarpauling was temporarily hung up in its place; but the east wind not regarding the sacred edifice, a few days since, blew down the said covering, which in its descent carried a piece of the stone altar screen on to the table and broke it. Now what shall be done with the fragments of the old oak table? The Vicar pronounces them sacred, solest unholy hands should pollute them, or they should be applied to unholy purposes, a fire was kindled in the church, and the holy pieces burnt in the sacred edifice.—*From a Correspondent.*

ASSESSMENT OF PLACES OF WORSHIP.—Some months ago a question was raised before the paving commissioners of Lynn, as to the legality of assessing the places of public worship to the paving, watching, and lighting rate, as levied in this borough. These buildings have, up to the present time, been charged with paving rate, and though appeals have been made against this course in case of a newly-erected place of worship, the commissioners have always resisted the claims of exemption, believing that they were acting in strict accordance with the Act of Parliament. The Roman Catholic chapel, which was erected some two years ago, has been lately assessed in an annual charge of between £8 and £9; application was made to the priest, the Rev. W. Rigby, for payment, who, knowing that no charge of the kind had ever been paid by his predecessor, Mr. Dalton, he determined to appeal against the charge. This appeal was subsequently made to the commissioners, who informed that gentleman that the charge was now only nominal, for that, if the full amount was levied, it would reach the sum of £20 per annum. This statement induced Mr. Rigby to lay the local act before his solicitor, with the view of obtaining the opinion of counsel upon the legality of the charge. Here the matter rested until a very short time since, several months having elapsed since the first charge was made

for the Catholic chapel, when the decision of the counsel was announced to be against the rate. It may now be stated, that not only is the Catholic chapel exempt from this rate, but that all places of worship erected since the passing of the act are exempt also. We have been informed that the commissioners thought it necessary to test the question, with the view of its being definitively settled, and that they too obtained the opinion of counsel upon the subject. The result was a decision exactly as above stated.—*Norfolk News.*

"THE SPALDING FREE PRESS" is the title of a new journal published every alternate Tuesday. "Our endeavours," say the proprietors in their address, "will be directed to the furtherance of the people's cause; to earnest advocacy of, not toleration, but perfect religious equality; and to the support of those great economical improvements which an increasing population and the recognition of sound principles, are just now beginning to force on the attention of politicians."

EDUCATION IN WALES.—A training-school for the preparation and instruction of schoolmasters is now in course of erection at Carmarthen, for the southern districts of Wales, and is expected to be opened in the summer of the present year. The National Society have intimated their wish to appoint a master, at a salary of not less than £250 per annum; and have at the same time announced that a gentleman acquainted with the Welsh tongue will, *ceteris paribus*, be preferred.

IRISH VAGRANTS.—The *Liverpool Mercury* says:—"Since Monday morning, one hundred and sixty-nine Irish offenders have been brought before Mr. Rushton—an average exceeding forty per day. The Borough gaol contains at this moment more than one thousand prisoners—five hundred being about the usual average—and the workhouse is so full that many shivering vagrants have been denied admission. The overseers are endeavouring to meet the evil, but we are assured that, but for the Night Asylum, deaths must have occurred in the streets from sheer starvation."

GOVERNMENT EDUCATION.—All the candidates selected from the three schools at Calne, and lately examined for the office of pupil-teachers by her Majesty's Inspector, the Rev. B. Morly, both boys and girls, have been accepted and appointed by the Committee of Council on Education. Besides the approbation bestowed on the examination passed by the candidates in general, to one of the boys the term of his apprenticeship has been shortened to two years, in consequence of the superior manner in which he acquitted himself; and to two other boys the term has been shortened by one year each, for the same satisfactory reason.—*Wilts Independent.*

ISAAC TODHUNTER, THE SENIOR WRANGLER AT CAMBRIDGE this year, is second son of the late Rev. G. Todhunter, formerly of Rye, then of High Wycombe, and last of Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks, where he died, leaving a widow and four sons, the eldest under six years of age. The family left Chalfont after the decease of the father, and resided many years at Hastings, where they attended regularly the Croft Chapel. The conduct of the whole family has been most creditable to the Dis-senting body. Another of the sons, the third, has taken his degree of B.A. at the London University, and the successful competitor at Cambridge has been (without the aid of Harrow, Eton, Winchester, Westminster, or Mill Hill, or Totteridge), the architect of his own fortune. *Palmam qui meruit ferat.* Mr. Todhunter is the first London University student who has attained to the honour. Mr. Todhunter has, we believe, proceeded to his B.A. degree at Cambridge.—*Patriot.*

HEBREW CHAIR—COURT OF SESSION.—We understand that the interdict obtained by the minority of the Town Council in this case was made perpetual on Tuesday, no opposition having been attempted on the part of Mr. Macdougall or the majority of the Town Council.—*Scotsman.*

COMMUTATION OF THE SENTENCE ON MICHAEL M'CABE.—The public will learn with surprise, that Michael M'Cabe, who was found guilty with Patrick Reid of the murder of the Wraiths and their servant at Mirfield, but respited on the confession of Patrick Reid that he alone committed the murders, is to be transported for life. The general, though certainly not the universal impression was, that M'Cabe was completely exculpated by Reid's confession. The learned and judicious Judge who tried the prisoners, Mr. Justice Patteson, was of opinion that M'Cabe ought to have been acquitted; and the Governor of York Castle had the strongest opinion, from his observation of the prisoner during some months, that he was wholly innocent. It was thought that the confession of a dying man, *taking the whole guilt to himself*, and exculpating another who, so far from having any claims upon him, *had actually given evidence against him*, might be relied upon. It appears, however, that Reid was supposed to have some secret motive (connected with his own mother) for screening M'Cabe; and that the latter, though he might not have actually joined in committing the murders, became an accessory after the fact, and concealed the crime. It is stated in the letter of Mr. Matthews, M'Cabe's counsel, that further evidence had been obtained, which left the Judge's mind in some degree of doubt.—*Leeds Mercury.*

THE MODEL PARISH.—A large meeting, convened for the purpose of explaining and recommending the formation of a Model Parish to be formed exclusively on Teetotal principles was held last week in the Town-hall, Birmingham, when it is supposed 3,500 persons were present. Benjamin Rotch, Esq., the Rev. John Angell James, and others, made admirable speeches; they think the project an excellent advertisement for the Temperance cause, and likely to prove a great promoter of it. Similar meetings have been held in other parts of the kingdom, and others are announced.—*Teetotal Times.*

EXPENSES OF THE CAFFRE WAR.—It appears by a Parliamentary paper just issued, that the estimated sum required for defraying the expenses of the Kafir war, beyond the ordinary grants for the past two years, is upward of half a million sterling, the total sum required being £1,100,000.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WAR.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

RESPECTED FRIEND,—Your article upon War has awakened in the minds of many of your readers serious thoughts as to the rectitude of the principle, that war is inconsistent with the spirit of Christianity. Throughout the whole of the leader, "The Explanatory Note," the "Word more on War," and the letter of "Pacifcus," it appears to my mind that the difference between the policeman and the soldier has been entirely lost sight of. The constable is invested with his office by the whole community, for the purpose of executing the laws of that body who appointed him, whenever any one of the number should overstep the bounds of justice. He is a free agent, not bound to enforce any law which he may deem inconsistent with the spirit of Christianity, but is at liberty to resign his office whenever he may be ordered to do that which he conscientiously believes to be wrong. Moreover he is bound not to transgress those laws himself; and should he do so, he is amenable to his own staff—the symbol of his office.

Not so the soldier; he is trained for the express purpose of destroying his fellow-creatures. That is his aim and glory. Peace with all the world, is a stoppage to all his hopes of advancement. He is not a free agent; having once yielded himself to the recruiting officer, under the influence of the inebriating draught of alcohol, or the intoxicating cup of passion's false glorious fame, he henceforth becomes the slave of despotism. He is divested of his responsibility, almost the only thing which man can call his own, excepting sin. His conscience is now no guide for him in his course of action. His superior officer is his conscience; he must obey his dictates, his will is law. Let the business the soldier is ordered to execute be an aggression upon the most innocent of God's own family—let it be to fix his bayonet in the hearts of his dearest relatives, who happen to have emigrated to some foreign shore—let it be to hurry hundreds of infidels to the bar of God, or hundreds of Christians to appear before the great white throne, still he must obey. And what is the compensation for the loss of this exercise of the soldier's conscience? It is this, that under certain circumstances—those circumstances being regulated by the will of the commanding officer—this soldier and his fellows shall, if they conquer in the siege, be at full liberty to break every precept of the moral law—to plunder the dead and the dying—to violate the chastity of the helpless and the weak—to eat and drink their neighbour's food—to exercise the brutal passion of revenge to the very utmost, and what they cannot carry away with them, they are allowed to burn and destroy, lest the orphan and the widow should have anything left to preserve them from sharing the fate of their husbands, sons, and brothers.

Is there anything analogous to this in the exercise of the policeman's functions? When he brings the offender to justice, is he allowed, *under any circumstances*, to violate a single precept of the moral law, or to gratify a lust for revenge? Is he allowed to burn and destroy the goods and chattels of the friends of the prisoner? Nay, further. If the prisoner can prove that what he did he did in ignorance, and by the counsel of another who occupied a position in the community which afforded him the opportunity of knowing the deed to be punishable, is not the abettor the most guilty, and subject to the severest punishment? I ask again, where is the analogy between the policeman and the soldier? The one is responsible for every action to God and man; the other is not allowed to be responsible, except to the Commander-in-Chief.

For argument's sake, let us admit that physical force is the Christian method of repelling foreign invasion. And I suppose it will be admitted, by those who take this view of the question, that where there is no civil government that physical force is the inherent right of each individual of the community. Instead of taking a highly civilized country, let us reverse the case, and go "step by step." We will suppose that a slaver has arrived at the shores of Africa; it has sent forth its minions to invade the coast for the purpose of taking the people slaves; the poor barbarians, not having a civil government to defend them, they exercise their inherent right to defend themselves; not able to kill sufficient of their enemies, they are captured, and taken on board. Does this "inherent right" still continue with them? Then they have the right, if they have the might, to throw overboard the crew, and take the vessel to themselves. But they are taken to America, and sold by auction. Do they now lose their "inherent right"? If they do not, then the other three millions who were there before them have the "inherent right," if they have but the might, to rise *en masse*, to cut the throats of their "Christian" masters, and to appropriate the Southern States to themselves. One step further. If the aristocracy have (according to the principles of the Charter) invaded the rights of the lower orders of this country, and taken from their possession certain portions of their liberty, and so far made them slaves, then the Chartists have the "inherent right," if they have the might, to adopt physical force to obtain back that portion of their freedom which the invaders have usurped. One step more. Certain persons have invaded the prerogative of Christ, and the liberties of Christians, by transferring the headship of Christ over his Church to the Queen of England, and deprived thousands of Christians of some of their Christian liberties, under the protection of the musket and the sabre. They have incarcerated some of the worthiest of Christian heroes within the gloomy walls of prisons, and the lonesome cells of the Inquisition. Is the "inherent right" lost to these? Now that probably the majority of this country are Dissenters, and therefore possessed of the might, would it be Christian-like to meet these invaders "upon their own grounds," and forthwith dissolve the connexion between Church and State by the "chosen weapons" of their own warfare?

But I will not trespass further; in your last number you said that you had done with the subject; I hope if you have, you will allow some of your correspondents to reply to this. Let us have truth at any cost; and upon such a serious matter as this, is could not one column of your valuable pages every week for the next twelve months be well employed if devoted to the discussion of this subject? For I believe you have expressed your conscientious opinions upon this matter, as we all have reason to admire and believe you do on every other subject.

With my best wishes for your augmented success on the 1st of March, and my determination to do my humble part towards it, I subscribe myself,

A MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE OF
February 5, 1848. UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Will you allow a reader of the late discussion upon war to say a word or two? It would much facilitate the settlement of this matter, if "Pacifcus" were to condense his logic so as to thrust into prominence just those one or two points upon which the question hinges. In the first

place, does "Pacificus" hold that the precepts contained in the Sermon on the Mount are to be applied to civil government, as well as to individual Christians? Say he does: then I ask him whether he understands them in their literal meaning, or as figurative expressions strongly forbidding the spirit of resentment and revenge. If in their literal meaning, then upon his theory, they not only forbid personal self-defence, but altogether abolish the institution of civil government, and of course war. If in the figurative sense, then I deny that they touch the question of war or government; because defensive war (the only kind I speak of), and civil government, both exclude the working of revenge or resentment. They are protective institutions, that know nothing of "love" or "hate." Their enactments against the offender are dictated by no aggravated sense of the injury done, but by the calm spirit of an overlooking Justice.

This question, when argued, must be argued upon general principles; and if war be wholly indispensable, it must be so upon the hypothesis, that the Sermon on the Mount is to be applied in its most literal acceptance to civil government. I leave this argumentum ad hominem with your readers, without encumbering it by illustrations.

February 5th, 1848.

Yours, &c.,

C. S.

THE COURT OF JENNERS.—The Court of Arches is a court impersonal. In other courts the judge frequently speaks of himself, but in the Court of Arches the president's name is never heard; it is the Court that feels this and that, and does this and that. The court was the other day "disgusted," and more recently it was "indignant;" but a court should know only one mood, that of justice, and the calmness and dispassionateness belonging to it. Disgust and indignation should be utterly foreign to the feelings of a court. But this Court of Arches is unlike any other court. It is a court with a large family tree planted in it. The court has a son a proctor, another an advocate; it has a son-in-law brother-in-law of a party in suit, and two sons who are indebted to the same party for hospitality. There is no other court that presents such delightful domestic features. You are in that court in the bosom of a family amongst whom reigns the most perfect concord. They are all proctors, advocates, &c., as like as so many peas. Take care, therefore, not to mistake the judge for the advocate, or the advocate for the judge. The judge speaks in the name of the court, because of the number of Jenners, whose name is Legion. He is called Fust Jenner, a corruption of First Jenner, to signify that he stands first on the family list; but to tell who is last Jenner would require a vast deal of counting, for there are Jenners without end in that court. The court has ceased to be known and described as the Court of Arches (an unmeaning name); it is now called the Court of Jenners.—*Examiner*.

GENERAL POST-OFFICE.—From the complaints constantly making, it appears that a systematic robbery of newspapers is perpetrated in the General Post-office. We have already directed the attention of the Post-office authorities to the subject, and as they permit the abuse to continue, it is time that it should be noticed in Parliament. A most simple expedient, and one that is in hourly operation in all our docks—that of searching every person employed in the office every time he leaves the building—would effectually put a stop to the thefts or insure the detection of the thieves. It is a national disgrace that we should hear of a second complaint on the subject.—*Times*. [We can fully bear out the allegations made by our contemporary, having of late received numerous complaints from subscribers of the non-arrival of their papers, when, in each case, they have been punctually forwarded.]

THE TEA DUTIES.—On Wednesday, Lord John Russell received, at his official residence, Downing-street, a deputation appointed at a public meeting in Liverpool, to bring again before the attention of Government the subject of the tea duties. Sir T. Birch and Mr. Cardwell, the members for Liverpool, introduced and strongly supported the object of the Deputation, which consisted of—Mr. R. Gladstone, on behalf of the merchants; Mr. Brodribb, on behalf of those more immediately interested in the trade; Mr. J. R. Jeffrey, on behalf of the tradesmen and shopkeepers; Mr. R. Crossley, as the President of the Tradesman's and Guardian Society; and Mr. H. Littledale, as the representative of the commercial and general public of Liverpool. Each of these gentlemen having addressed Lord John Russell, his lordship having attentively listened for an hour and a half, replied, that he felt constrained to dissent from one of the resolutions of the meeting represented by the Deputation, viz., that no direct loss would accrue to the revenue from a considerable reduction of the duty on tea; and while prepared to admit that the consumption of tea would greatly increase, he must guard against being supposed to acquiesce in the extent of the consumption assumed by the members of that and a late Deputation. However, it was in its financial aspect merely that the subject would have to be considered by her Majesty's First Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and it would be for them, being responsible for the revenue of the country, to see if any means could be hit upon whereby the question could be safely dealt with.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM'S IRISH ESTATES.—On Friday the reported sale of the Chandos and Buckingham Irish estates was confirmed, the whole of this extensive property, consisting of 250,000 statute acres, producing the rental of £11,000 per annum, being thrown into the market.—*Observer*.

NEW DAILY PAPER.—A new newspaper has been commenced in London, under the name of the *Telegraph*, one of its principal features being the publication of news received from all parts of the kingdom by electric telegraph. It also gives a "Feuilleton," after the manner of the French, at the bottom of the page.

THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—The London and North-Western has obtained all the money that it required without advertising, and will in future only give four per cent. interest. The *Observer* states that other railway companies "are inundated" with offers of money on loan.

INDISPOSITION OF MR. WAKLEY, M.P.—We regret to learn that Mr. Wakley is confined to his bed-room by a severe attack of bronchitis.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Sunday night, the Rev. Samuel Thodey, for twenty-eight years pastor of the Independent chapel, Downing-street, Cambridge, preached his farewell sermon to his congregation.—*Bury Post*.

We have pleasure in announcing the safe return of the Rev. C. Rattray, who arrived on the 24th per "Randolph," Campbell, 40 days from Clyde. At the same time we lament the continued severe illness of Mrs. Davies, of New Amsterdam, which compelled her return to England in a debilitated state, by last mail—in the depth of winter.—*Guiana Congregational Record*.

MR. PETO, M.P. for Norwich, is erecting a large and handsome meeting-house in London, with the intention of its occupation by the Particular Baptists. The situation is near to the new opening from the top of Holborn to Oxford-street, and on a line of streets from the British Museum to Waterloo-bridge. It stands between Bedford Episcopal chapel (built for the notorious Dr. Dodd) and the French Protestant church, in what was called Charlotte-street, Bloomsbury. It is designed to seat 1,400, with school-rooms for 1,000 children. The ground itself is said to have cost £7,000.

HORNCastle.—The Rev. Samuel Gladstone, who has been supplying, for the last twelve months, the pulpit of the Independent Church and congregation at Spilsby, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Independent church, Horncastle, to become their pastor, and will enter upon his charge, D. V., the first Sabbath in April.

THE KARENS.—We are glad to learn, from a letter from Rev. Mr. Ingalls, published in the *Macedonian*, that the Karen churches in Burmah Proper have "rest." He says:—"The Karens are now enjoying toleration at the hands of the Burmans, and one Burman has been baptized. The Karens inform me that an order came down from Ava not to molest their people living east of the Irrawaddy, because persecution was driving them into Arracan. They have several large chapels in Burmah Proper, and stated worship. I shall soon have news from them, and will write you."—*New York Recorder*.

THE MISSION TO CHINA.—On Tuesday evening the interesting and impressive services connected with the ordination of a missionary were publicly performed in Grosvenor-street Chapel, Piccadilly; the missionary being the Rev. B. Kay, and his destination Hong Kong. The Rev. Dr. Legge, a missionary who has already been some years in Hong Kong, after previously conducting the college for native teachers in Malacca, delivered an introductory address, detailing the circumstances connected with the mission. The Rev. Dr. Massie having asked the usual questions of the candidate, the Rev. R. Fletcher offered the ordination prayer, and the Rev. Dr. Halley delivered an impressive charge. On Wednesday evening there was a public meeting on behalf of these missions, in Mosely-street Chapel. Mr. Samuel Fletcher presided; and amongst others on the platform were the Rev. Dr. Legge and Mr. Farebrother, missionaries to China, the Rev. Dr. Massie, the Rev. James Newstead, the Rev. R. Fletcher, the Rev. Dr. Davidson, the Rev. James Gwyther, Mr. Alderman Burd, the Rev. J. L. Poore, and the Rev. Mr. Ford. Two Chinese youths, whose names are Lee Rimlin and Song Heartkean, were present, and these strangers naturally attracted a great deal of attention.—*Manchester Times*.

MOVEMENTS AMONG THE GENERAL BAPTISTS IN LEICESTER.—In reference to a paragraph which appeared in our last number, under the above head, a member of the Dover-street church says:—"How far doctrinal differences as there stated are the cause of the separation of pastor and people, may best be learnt from the parties themselves: certainly Mr. Goadby did not state such to constitute the reason for relinquishing his office, as the following, taken from his letter to the church announcing his intention, will bear witness. He says:—

I need not specify at length the various motives and circumstances which have led me to this decision; it may suffice to state, that the comparative fruitlessness of my ministry during the past few years, the present embarrassed state of the financial concerns of the church, the existence of some measure of disaffection, and the absence of a prospect of zealous co-operation in advancing the cause of evangelical religion amongst us, constitute the principal reasons which require me to adopt my present course."

MONMOUTH.—On Wednesday, January 19, 1848, the ordination of Mr. Henry Clark, M.A., took place at the Baptist chapel, Monmouth. In the morning Mr. T. Thomas, of Pontypool, delivered the introductory address, stating the nature of a Christian church; Mr. John Clark, minister, of Folkestone, asked the usual questions; Mr. James Clark, of Edinburgh, father of the minister, delivered the charge. In the evening Mr. E. Probert, of Bristol, preached to the people; the devotional exercises were conducted by Messrs. Berg, Butterworth, Jones, Penny, Elliott, Nicholson, Copley, Owens, and Hume. Although the weather was unfavourable the interesting services were well attended, and the prospects of the church encouraging.

MR. H. DUNERLEY, B.A., formerly of the Baptist College, Accrington, now studying at the Glasgow university, has been invited to the pastorate of the Baptist church, George-street, Salford, and will commence his labours there in May next.

MR. J. BURY, from the same Institution, has received a unanimous invitation from the Baptist church, Colne, Lancashire, and will enter upon his labours in that sphere the second Sabbath in March.

REPRESENTATION OF NORTH SHROPSHIRE.—The address of Mr. J. W. Dod to the electors of North Shropshire has made its appearance, dated from Cloverly Hall. It is not striking: the writer promises support for measures tending to avert or mitigate the evils he apprehends from Free-trade measures; he will oppose further endowments to Roman Catholics, and the admission of Jews to Parliament.

RAMSGATE.—Mr. Vincent has addressed two enthusiastic audiences in this town on the political and social rights of the people.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

M. THIERS ON ITALIAN LIBERTY.—In the Postscript of our last number we mentioned that M. Thiers had made an energetic and important speech in the Chamber of Deputies, in favour of Italian liberty. The following is an extract from the address:—

In the eye of all the cabinets of Europe, now upon Italy, there was the spectacle of a moral equilibrium to be maintained; all material questions had become moral ones; and in this great equilibrium Absolutist ideas and Liberal ideas were exercising their tendencies. It was the duty of the French nation to watch over the just balance of these tendencies. In so doing, she must neither clandestinely nor violently impose liberties on countries which have them not. To impose a liberty unsought would be violence, and to impose it by propagandism would be perfidy. "But when liberty shall develop itself in any quarter, without any other participation on our part than Montesquieu, Descartes, Pascal, those sublime agitators of human ideas, without any other complicity on our part than the taking of the Bastille, and the Revolution of July—when revolution shall thus develop itself, it is sacred [applause]. It is sacred, and no one should interfere with it: to do so would be an attack against nature and against humanity [sensation]. We should not carry liberty into any quarter, but we ought not to suffer it to be molested when it comes spontaneously [Bravo, bravo!] No; France must not suffer it. This is the principle of our policy. You are acquainted with the events in Italy. It is we who have caused the events in Rome and those at Turin. You may see the genius of France in them, but nowhere her hand. Yes, we have led the world for the last fifty years, or for longer still. We are the great criminals who have founded with Descartes freedom of thought—who, with Bossuet, founded the independence of the Church—who, with Montesquieu, fixed the eternal rights of the people. Yes, we are those great criminals, and we are not alone. England with Bacon, and Germany with Leibnitz, have also committed their crimes. But we are the most criminal; and may others soon partake in this criminality!"

In parenthesis to his general remarks on French policy in Italy, M. Thiers devoted a few words to the late occurrences in Sicily.

You all know what is passing at Palermo. A great city has been bombarded for eight-and-forty hours—bombarded not by foreigners, but by her own Government—bombarded not for injuries done, but for having demanded rights. Yes, the inhabitants demanded not anarchical and dangerous liberties, but the most equitable and most natural rights—that of being judged by impartial magistrates—of controlling the expenses of an administration which weighs them down with taxes—of having certain municipal privileges—in fine, they demanded a constitution for Sicily. Such were the rights for demanding which Palermo was subjected to a forty-eight hours' bombardment. In the name of humanity, I here denounce such acts. When the Austrians, to spare themselves the delay of a siege, bombarded Lisle—when England, for a similar reason, bombarded Copenhagen—a cry of indignation rose high throughout all Europe. More recently, when the Regent Espartero, who had rendered great services to his country, caused Barcelona to be similarly treated in order to repress an insurrection, persons of every party exclaimed loudly against the act. In what terms must then the present treatment of Palermo be designated?

M. Guizot, in reply, declared that he and the Government sympathized with the regeneration of Italy:—

He too agreed that France should watch the daily changes in the balance of power in favour of free states, and that on every decrease of absolutism a chance was gained for France. Every natural attempt to recover liberty was of advantage to France; but only on condition that it were successful, and that from it regular and durable government arose. The King's Government would, everywhere and always, maintain the independence of the Italian states. "There was scarcely anything which M. Thiers had mentioned but what the Government was ready to do. He felt bound to tell the Chamber, that the advice given by the honourable deputy had been already acted upon. He might, perhaps, be more popular in Italy; but the conduct of the Government in the Italian states has been, on every point, in conformity to the true interests of the country and those of humanity."

On Wednesday, M. Thiers followed up his attacks on the Government by a speech on Swiss affairs, admitted by all parties, whether friends or foes, to be the most brilliant and powerful he has ever delivered. He commenced with an historical review of the constitution of Switzerland; then an attack on the Sonderbund, and on the policy pursued by the French Government in supporting it. The Swiss question was to France a question of frontier. France has the strongest interest in preserving the neutrality of Switzerland, and yet she does what she can to provoke foreign intervention. "I am," said he, "of the party of the revolution in Europe; I wish the revolution to be carried on by the hands of its moderate supporters. I shall do all that I can to keep it in the hands of that moderate party, but if it should pass into the hands of a party not moderate, I shall not abandon the cause of the revolution. I shall be always of the party of the revolution." This speech made a great impression, and is understood to be very damaging to M. Guizot.

The Chamber of Deputies resumed on Friday the discussion on the address. The seventh paragraph, relative to Poland, gave rise to an animated debate.

On Saturday the Chamber discussed the paragraph of the address relative to Algeria. Marshal Bugeaud said, that the submission of Abd-el-Kader was a new guarantee in favour of the African possessions of France, but he was nevertheless of opinion that the army should be reduced as little as possible in presence of a warlike population of at least 4,000,000 souls, who could, in six weeks, turn into the field between 500,000 and 600,000 combatants. M. Guizot, having been asked by M. Larochejacquelin what the Government intended to do with the Emir, replied:—

The promise made to him shall be fulfilled. We cannot, however, allow him to proceed to St. Jean d'Acre, because that fortress belongs to the Porte, which has not yet recognised our African possessions. If Abd-el-Kader wishes to be conveyed to the East, he shall be conducted to Alexandria. There, if the Viceroy consents to receive him, we will find guarantees and securities, which St. Jean d'Acre does not offer.

Our correspondent states, that "his Majesty the King of the French appears in good general health, but his cough remains." He then adds,—"I can assure you that the Duchess de Montpensier is in a condition which promises an heir to whatever states or property she and her illustrious consort may die possessed of or entitled to."—*Times*.

THE REFORM QUESTION, the debate upon which was anxiously expected, was to commence on Monday. From the information furnished by the Paris correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, it would appear that there is a division in the Conservative ranks upon this matter:—

On Friday last a deputation of Conservative members had a long conference with M. Duchatel, at the office of the Interior, at which they spoke of an amendment to the address, which the Conservatives thought of moving, implying a promise that some reforms should be effected in the course of the next session. After some hesitation, M. Duchatel, without exactly pledging himself to the course he should take, expressed himself in such a manner as to give the deputation to understand that the Government would accept of proposed amendment. In consequence of this, a meeting of upwards of thirty members of the Conservative party took place yes-

terday (Saturday), in one of the committee-rooms of the Chamber of Deputies, at which M. Charles, as one of the staunchest of the Government majority, presided; and at this meeting an amendment was drawn up, and unanimously agreed to, in which a positive promise is introduced that a reform measure will be brought forward by the Government in the course of next session. This amendment, as thus drawn up, was last night laid before the members of the Government, and positively refused. Among the deputies who were present, and who approved of the amendment, were M. Plouffe, formerly Procureur de Roi at Paris; M. Janvier, who made a speech a few days ago in favour of the Government; and several others, who have been considered equally staunch in favour of the Government. This split in the Conservative party is very serious, and may lead to a break-up in the Cabinet. While I am now writing (Saturday), another Conservative deputation has gone to M. Guizot, to try to come to terms. It will depend upon this interview whether or not a further disruption in the Conservative ranks will take place.

On Wednesday night, when the Prince of Syracuse (brother of the King of Naples) presented himself at the Tuilleries to take leave of the present King, the latter asked him what, in his opinion, the King of Naples would do? The Prince replied, "I have no confidence in my brother's promises to his people. He is in the power of a *camarilla* who will cause his destruction. I should not, therefore, be astonished should I hear that he had been induced to take refuge on board some foreign vessel in the harbour—that he protests against the violence by which it will be alleged he was forced to concede the constitution, and finishes by calling in the Austrians." The Prince had made every preparation for his departure last Tuesday. He is nevertheless still in Paris—why? He has not received his passports.

SPAIN.

COURT INTRIGUES.—The chief intelligence received by a late mail is this:—Queen Isabel invited Queen Christina to dinner; when the youthful sovereign entered the dining-room, she saw, not only her honoured mother, but the whole brood of Munoz, very hungry, and not particularly quiet. The undutious Isabel stayed no question, but hurried from the room, leaving her mother and half brothers and sisters to digest their dinner and disappointment as best they might. Then, again, Espartero was to be invited to the Queen's *fêtes*; but this was prevented by the low spite of a low-minded woman; Christina declared that if Espartero was one of her daughter's guests, she, the wife of Munoz, would not be present—and she prevailed. Espartero has obtained his passport to go to Lograno; he was still, however, suffering from influenza. Narvaez was about reducing the army.

ITALY.

EXASPERATING POLICY OF AUSTRIA IN LOMBARDY.—Advices from Milan of the 20th ult. continue to report measures of the most despotic nature adopted by the authorities. The Society of Encouragement had been closed by order of the Government. Count Vitaliano Borromeo, being a knight of the Golden Fleece, had hitherto escaped arrest in virtue of his privilege, but the court of Vienna has just authorized the police of Milan to arrest him. The number of persons wounded in the massacre of the 2nd and 3rd ult. proves to be 216, and every day is marked by the death of some among them. They have chiefly fallen under bayonet wounds. Some of these unfortunate sufferers were detained in prison by the police for fifteen days without other care than that of the gaoler. It would be tedious, say these letters, to enumerate the atrocities of the police during these massacres and after them. Their conduct, however, had received high approbation at Vienna. A high degree of excitement continues to prevail in every part of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom. At Brescia a number of Austrian officers entered the theatre; an individual immediately rose in the pit and exclaimed, "Let every true Italian withdraw!" In a few minutes the only persons remaining in the theatre were the Austrian officers above-mentioned and the governor.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.—The King of Sardinia would appear seriously alarmed by the colossal preparations for war made by Austria in the neighbourhood of his states. Not only had he ordered that Alessandria be placed out of danger from a *coup de main*, but was "arming all his fortresses of the Alps," says the *Gazette de France*, "and, in spite of the rigour of the season, caused the recruits whose regiments were stationed in Savoy, to pass Mont Cenis." On the other hand, the power of the Austrians in Lombardy, already irresistible, was hourly increasing. The country was, in the language of the paper just quoted, "under the yoke of military terror." Letters from Turin announce as positive that the Austrian cabinet has sent to the Sardinian government a note on the subject of these military preparations of the latter, in a tone so imperious and menacing as to produce a report that war had already been declared between the two powers. It is certain that the movements of the Austrian troops in Lombardy and Venice are such as to indicate not merely the purpose of overawing the population of their own states, but that of forming a military cordon on the Piedmontese frontier. The head-quarters of the Austrian army in Lombardy have been removed from Milan to Gallarate.

LORD PALMERSTON AT HIS OLD WORK.—The *Patria*, of Florence, says,—"If we are well informed, Sir Ralph Abercrombie, the English Plenipotentiary in Sardinia, communicated, on the 24th of January, to Count de St. Marsan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, a note sent by Lord Palmerston to the Count of Vienna, in which it is declared that, in case an Austrian intervention should occur in Tuscany, in the Roman States, or in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, it would be considered by England as a declaration of war."

TREATY BETWEEN AUSTRIA, PARMA, AND MODENA.—Turin letters assert positively, that "a treaty (offensive and defensive it may be termed) has been concluded between Austria, Parma, and Modena, by which Austria binds herself to come to the assistance of the other parties to the treaty whenever required, and by which they guarantee to her a free passage through their states for any number of troops she may desire to expedite to other portions of Italy."

REVOLUTION IN NAPLES AND SICILY.

On Friday the French Government received by telegraphic despatch the following important news, dated Naples, the 29th ult.:—"The King, by a proclamation

dated this day, has solemnly promised a constitution on the basis of the French charter. Yesterday the King appointed a new ministry, of which the Duke de Serra-Capriola is President."

The details of the events which led to this grand result have since arrived. It will be recollected that the accounts which we gave lately brought the narrative of events in Palermo to the 21st, and in Naples to the 24th. The insurgents were in possession of the city of Palermo, while the forts commanding the town were occupied by the royal troops, a renewal of the bombardment on the part of the latter being hourly expected. At Naples the greatest excitement and alarm prevailed, but no actual popular movement, no overt act of insurrection, had yet taken place.

When it became evident that all the regular functions of the Government at Palermo were suspended by the triumph of the insurrection, the necessity for some organization for the maintenance of order and the provision of the immediate exigencies, led at once to the appointment of a junta as a provisional government. This was resolved into two committees, one of public defence and one of administration.

On the 21st it became apparent to the commanders of the royal forces that, with an entire population against them, the means at their disposal were inadequate to the reduction of the city. Negotiations were therefore attempted. General de Sauge, therefore, sent a Sicilian captain to the junta on the 22nd, with the following propositions:—

1. For a suspension of hostilities.
2. For the supply of provisions to the prisons where criminals were confined, and which were still under the guard of the royal troops.
3. To send a deputation of the junta to Naples, to lay before the King the demands of the people.
4. To publish a decree of general amnesty; which decree was sent to the junta.

These propositions, excepting the second, were rejected with the utmost disdain. The decree of amnesty which was sent, when delivered by the junta to the people, was publicly burned.

Owing to the activity and foresight of the junta, Palermo continued to be so well and regularly provisioned, that prices did not sensibly rise in the market even on the days of the bombardment. Crowds were continually passing through the streets. The people in general were without arms. Some were provided with arms of the chase, and many had sabres, cutlasses, or cane-swords. In the streets not exposed to be swept by grape from the forts, the shops continued open. Along the Via Toledo, the main street, which divides in its whole length the city into two districts, the guns of the fort from time to time sent discharges of grape.

On the 22nd the revolutionary junta of Palermo caused a journal to be established, called *Il Cittadino*, the professed object being to "mention the most important facts connected with Sicilian regeneration, to make known the determinations of the representatives of the people, and to treat on all political questions as to the system adapted to Sicily."

On the same day an obstinate conflict took place at the Treasury between the troops and the people, and a still more bloody one at the convent of the Noviziate, which was occupied by the troops. These positions were finally carried by the insurgents on that evening, and a great number of the military taken prisoners. The soldiers thus captured were treated with the greatest humanity, and afterwards employed by the insurgents to point their guns. The Bank and the Palazzo Reale also fell into the power of the insurgents. The Duke de Majo, who commanded one division of the royal troops, fled for safety and gained the quarters of General de Sauge. General Vial escaped on board a vessel in the harbour and went to Naples. The insurgents seized an amount of about £320,000 in the bank. The numbers of soldiers taken prisoners had not been made known; but it was certain it was very considerable.

Nothing could exceed the munificence of the charity of private individuals. Aid for the poor and the wounded poured in from all sides. The Jesuits subscribed £50, and converted their college into an hospital for the wounded.

At Naples, the news from Palermo, which transpired in spite of all the efforts of the police to intercept it, and the spectacle of steamer after steamer disembarking on the quay the wounded soldiers, produced a most profound impression. The decrees, granting reforms similar to those of Rome and Piedmont, published on the 24th, were attended with no effect. The people showed an aspect of silent and cold decision, and it became speedily evident, that danger to the monarchy was imminent. Clubs were organized in defiance of the police. Meanwhile, the Government was paralyzed, and the King, at the eleventh hour, became conscious of the peril into which his obstinacy had brought his dynasty. That peril extorted from him an order for the expulsion of the two individuals to whom hitherto he had been most closely attached, and who, being known to be the most ardent advisers of his despotic policy, were most odious to the people. His confessor, M. Coole, was sent from Naples to a convent in the principality of Beneventum; and Del Carretto, the atrocious Minister of Police, was conducted under an escort on board the steamer "Neptune"—previously prepared for the purpose—and sent to Genoa, where he arrived, as has since appeared, on the 29th. So rigorous were the measures adopted towards this latter person, that he was not allowed time to see his family, or take leave of them before his departure.

Conferences took place on the 25th between the leaders of the moderate reform party and the popular chiefs, when it was agreed that all proceedings should be suspended until the result of certain petitions which had been presented to the King should be known. It soon, however, became apparent that the movement of the people could not be controlled even by their own chiefs. In the afternoon of the 26th the people, to the number of upwards of 30,000, collected in the Via Toledo, the great main street of Naples. Shouts in favour of the constitution were everywhere heard to resound. Meanwhile the numbers augmented, and all the streets leading to the Via Toledo presented dense masses. The authorities now proceeded to execute the

general orders given to them for cases of serious *émeutes*. The red flag was hoisted on the Castle of St. Elmo and the Castel dell' Oovo. On this signal the drums beat and the troops of the garrison were all called out. They surrounded the palace and attempted to clear the Via Toledo. That street, closely packed with a mass of thirty thousand people, was impenetrable. Cries for a constitution, meanwhile, were everywhere heard. Every window was filled with ladies, waving handkerchiefs, and wearing ribbons of the Italian tri-color. The cavalry attempted one charge, in which they were immediately thrown from their horses and raised from the ground by the people, who offered no violence or insult to them. The young noblesse fraternized with the citizens, and in the intoxication of the moment both embraced the Lazzaroni. General Stratella was permitted to enter the crowd, in the midst of which he called on the people to cry "Long live the King." They complied, but added the usual cry for a constitution, and demanded of the general to join in the latter cry, as they had joined in the former. The general is reported to have replied, in the transport of the moment, *L'avrete* (you shall have it).

Such was the state of things on the evening of the 26th. The King still hesitated, reluctant to give up the last hope of suppressing the revolt by the armed force. He was, however, brought to a sense of his situation by the reports of the commanders of the troops themselves. All the Ministers, besides, had already been impressed with the danger of their position, and had tendered their resignations. These the King finally accepted, and placed in the hands of the Duke de Serra Capriola, late ambassador at Paris, and a well-known Liberal, unlimited power to act in the emergency as he might see fit. A cabinet was immediately formed, and the royal decree constituting it published in Naples on the next morning, the 27th, as follows:—

President of the Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Don Nicola Donnorso Maresca, Duke de Serra Capriola. Minister of Finance, the Prince Denace. Minister of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Instruction, Don Gaetano Scovazzo. Minister of Public Works, the Prince de Torella. Minister of Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs, Don Cesidio Bonanni. Minister of the Interior, Don Carlo Ciacciulli. Minister of State and President of the Council of State (*Consulta*), Don Antonio Statella, Prince de Casasco. Attorney-General of the Court of Accounts, Don Pietro d'Urso.

All these names are those of individuals who have been signalized as advocates of Liberal and enlightened reform. The result of their first cabinet council was to tender their advice to the King to proclaim at once a constitution with the most liberal conditions a¹ guarantees. Two days later, on the 29th, a royal ordinance was accordingly published, decreeing a national constitution for the kingdom of the Two Sicilies, to be founded on the same principles as the French charter of 1830, including the two Chambers, the royal inviolability, the responsibility of Ministers, liberty of the press, and the national guard. *Religious toleration alone is withheld*. No religion, save the Roman Catholic, is to be permitted. The following is the text of the conditions agreed upon:—

The legislative power shall be exercised by us and by two chambers; namely, a Chamber of Peers, and a Chamber of Deputies. The members of the first Chamber shall be nominated by us; the deputies shall be nominated by electors on the basis of a property qualification which shall be fixed.

The only dominating religion of the state shall be the Roman Catholic and Apostolic religion, and no other form of worship shall be tolerated.

The person of the King shall always be sacred, inviolable, and not subject to responsibility. The Ministers shall always be responsible for all the acts of the Government.

The land and sea services shall always be dependent on the King. The national guard shall be organized in all the kingdom, on a uniform mode, similar to that of the capital.

The press shall be free, and only subject to a repressive law for all that may offend religion, morality, public order, the King, the royal family, foreign sovereigns and their families, as well as the honour and interests of private individuals.

Letters from Naples, dated the 31st of January, mention the important fact that the National Guard had been embodied there, and was in full operation, being armed with fowling-pieces, knives, &c., improvised for the occasion. The Lazzaroni being turbulent, had, when attacking peaceful inhabitants, been restored to order by the National Guard. Tranquillity had been restored in the city. The King had suddenly become popular, and promenaded the streets with the Queen, without an escort. They had been enthusiastically received at the opera.

SWITZERLAND.

THE SWISS DIET in the sitting of January 31, voted a decree, which expels, by federal means, the Jesuits from every part of the Helvetic territory. By a second decree, it decided that the money and securities found in the chest of the Sonderbund should be handed over to the Paymaster-General of the Confederation, and appropriated to the payment of the debt which the cantons of the League have contracted towards the Confederation, as war expenses.

We learn by a letter from Lucerne of the 29th, that the Government had made up the deficiency in the Federal exchequer, and paid the first term of the war contribution. Negotiations had been opened with respect to the guarantee to be given on what remained to be paid, and it was hoped that they would soon be brought to a close.

AUSTRIA.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES OF THE GOVERNMENT.—Even before the commencement of the present agitation, the Austrian Government had no money to spare. What must be the state of its treasury now? Some time since the house of Rothschild was reported to have replied in these terms to an intimation from Prince Metternich that he might have occasion for their assistance. "We will advance no money for war purposes." And now we are told that a "superior officer of the Austrian Treasury has left Vienna for St. Petersburg, to negotiate with the Emperor direct, or with Russian capitalists, a loan of 50,000,000 roubles"—something beyond £4,000,000 sterling. "I am assured that the house of Rothschild has advanced 20,000,000 (£800,000) to the Austrian Government, but declined having anything to do with a loan, and that it was in consequence of that resolve that application is made in Russia. The cost of the army assembled and to be assembled in Lombardy is enormous. The force of that army will, ere the present month expire, be

150,000 men. People here cannot persuade themselves that all this outlay and all this preparation have merely defensive objects."—*Times correspondent.*

THE COMMERCIAL CRISIS at Vienna, says the city correspondent of the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, has now reached its limits, and a rise may be calculated upon. On the 29th railway shares rose rapidly. No visible change has taken place as yet in the other species of public securities, but the tone of the market is a better one, and speculators begin to look more lively. The liabilities of Messrs. Gontard and Sons (Frankfort) are given at 4,200,000 florins, and those of Flersheim and Co. at about one million less.

DENMARK.

NEW DANISH CONSTITUTION.—On the 29th ult. the new King of Denmark, accomplishing the promise which he had given in the letter patent published on the 20th, signed an ordinance, by which he grants a constitution to his states. There are to be established Commons States for the kingdom of Denmark and the duchies of Sleswick and Holstein; these states are to assemble at fixed periods alternately in the kingdom of Denmark and in the duchies. The new constitution consecrates the principle of voting the taxes by the states, and of their participation in the legislative power. The constitution changes nothing in the relations between the duchies of Holstein and Lauenburg with the Germanic Confederation; it preserves also the optional use of the Danish and the German languages, in the mixed districts of the duchy of Sleswick. The constitution is to be submitted to the examination of deputies, the majority of whom are to be elected by the provincial states. Their number is to be 26 for Denmark, and 26 for the duchies. Within two months after the elections this assembly is to meet at Copenhagen, and is to continue its labours until the King shall have pronounced its close. The use of both languages is permitted. Unless the Schleswig-Holstein party are of an Hibernian turn of mind, they can hardly help being delighted with the King's decree. Though the inhabitants of those provinces are in a vast minority, as compared with the Danish population of the kingdom, still the number of their representatives in the Council of Delegates, to whom the plan of the constitution will be submitted, precisely equals that of the delegates from Denmark Proper.

THE KING OF DENMARK has nominated as his successor to the throne, Prince Frederick Ferdinand, brother of the late King. The Prince is sixteen years older than the present King, and has no children.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

ARRIVAL OF SIR H. SMITH.—Cape of Good Hope papers to the 4th December inclusive, bring us the gratifying intelligence of the safe arrival of Sir Harry Smith, the new Governor, and suite, in the *Vernon*, on the 1st of that month. He appeared in excellent health and spirits, and met with a cordial reception from all ranks and classes of the people. Sir Harry at once proceeded to the Government house, where he was duly installed into office. In the evening Cape Town was brilliantly illuminated, when the streets were filled with moving columns of decent, orderly people, highly delighted with all they saw and heard. The frontier journals inform us that Col. Somerset had succeeded in effecting the passage of the Kye—an important fact in this stage of the Kafir war. The chief Pato, in his difficulty, had expected to have received shelter from Kreli, which, however, the latter refused; the former, therefore, recrossed the Kye. Information of that fact was immediately communicated to Captain McLean, the British Commissioner, and no doubt existed but Pato would either be captured by the British troops, who were in close pursuit of him, or that he would be compelled to surrender.

A RICH INSOLVENT.—Some twelve months ago an action was brought by Miss Mary Caines against Zachariah Smith, butler to Mr. Digby, of Cerne, for breach of promise of marriage. She obtained a verdict for damages; but Smith, to defeat it, went into the Insolvent Debtors' Court. He was remanded, on account of this debt, for six months, and again arrested at the suit of his attorney. He now filed a new petition, in the court in London; but it came out that he had just bought a freehold estate in Cheshire for £500, and upon this awkward disclosure, he prudently declined to appear on the 25th of January, and the order was discharged.

BREACH OF PROMISE.—In the Sheriff's Court, London, last week, Miss Rodgers obtained £64 damages against one of the employees of the London and North Western Company, bearing the suspicious name of Bachelor, for breach of promise of marriage. A number of defendant's love letters were produced, in which the fluctuations of his love were very amusingly exhibited. They began with, "Yours, J. B. C.;" then fired up to "My ever dearest Maria;" then softened into "My darling;" then cooled into "Dear Maria;" then formalized into "Dear Miss Rodgers;" and broke off with the following cool announcement,—"You wish to know how I intend to settle; all I can say is, that I cannot be more settled than I am!"

DOVER, KENT.—Mr. Henry Vincent has broken ground in this old Tory town. Three lectures were announced in the Apollonian-hall bearing upon the social, intellectual, and political progress of the people. The mayor had promised to take the chair, but the storm of Tory prejudice induced him to decline. The first meeting was small, the rain coming down in torrents, but great excitement was produced. The second night the room was well filled. On the third occasion the room was more crowded, although one shilling and sixpence admission were charged. The most intense interest was manifested by the audiences as Mr. Vincent demolished the prejudices that stand in the way of all reform, and demanded for the people their political and social rights. At the conclusion of the last address the whole audience rose and gave three times three hearty cheers. Mr. Horsnail moved, and Alderman Pautler seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Vincent, stating that whenever he visited Dover again his presence would be cordially welcomed by all parties.

IRELAND.

THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.

The Special Commission has concluded its sittings at Clonmel.

The chief cases have been the trials of Henry Cody and Philip Cody for the murder of Edward Madden on the 9th July last, at Killeeney; and that of John Daly and Edward Roughnan for shooting Mr. Richard Uniacke Bayley, near Nenagh, on the 13th November.

In the first case both the prisoners were found guilty. In Mr. Bayley's case, one Nicholas Garrigan (an approver) gave some characteristic evidence. He stated that, about a month before Mr. Bayley was shot, Daly came to him in the haggard, and complained that Mr. Bayley had run him out of house and home, and that he should be ruined unless he got Mr. Bayley shot. Daly then asked Garrigan to go with him the next Saturday evening to shoot him: Garrigan consented, on the ground that it would be a bad job for Daly, who would be the first suspected. A man named Connors subsequently asked Garrigan to go with him and Daly to shoot their intended victim, promising him the price of a suit of clothes as a reward. Garrigan, however, declined the job, unless he received enough to take him out of the country; but that not being promised, Garrigan refused to go. In his cross-examination Garrigan admitted that Mr. Bayley had never injured him. He added, "I would not murder any man I was asked to murder; but I would for Daly, because he was a relative of mine: I would have murdered any man Daly asked me." Mr. Rolleston—"Would you have murdered me if they asked you?" Witness—"By Gor, I would, sir." On being asked whether he thought it would be a greater crime to commit a murder or break a pledge, Garrigan said, "I think murder would be worst; but I don't know." The jury found Daly guilty, but acquitted Roughnan; he was retained in custody, however, to be tried for the conspiracy.

A SILENT PRISONER.—John Hayden was charged with the murder of William Crawley. When asked to plead, the prisoner made no reply. The Governor of the gaol said the prisoner had not spoken a word since he was fully committed, about three months ago. Chief Justice: Explain to him the meaning of this; ask him to plead to the indictment. The Governor then told the prisoner the nature of the proceeding, and asked him whether he was guilty or not guilty; but he still made no reply. There was no one employed for him. Chief Justice: Mr. Attorney, what will you do? Attorney-General: I have been speaking to the medical gentleman who attends the gaol, and he has told me that he believes all this to be feigned on the part of the prisoner. Chief Justice: Well, you know what the law enables you to do in such a case. Attorney-General: Yes, my lord; but as the doctor is of opinion that it would be better to allow some time to examine the matter more fully, I think it would be well to postpone the case to the assizes. Chief Justice: Very well; let the present indictment be quashed. Attorney-General: Yes, that can be done, and a new bill can be preferred at the assizes. The bill of the indictment was then quashed. The prisoner, who is rather a well-looking young man, about 26 years of age, was then removed.

The Special Commission has been adjourned till the 21st of February. The sentence on Matthew Hourigan, who, with Michael Butler, was convicted of the murder of Patrick Cleary, and was to have been executed on the 17th, has been commuted to transportation for life.

The result of the Limerick trials shows a total of thirty-eight prisoners tried, convicted, and sentenced. Of these, six are to be hanged, eighteen transported for different terms, and twenty-four imprisoned.

At Clare, the total convictions are thirty-one. To be hanged, five; sentences of death recorded, five; to be transported, nine; to be imprisoned for various terms, twelve.

In the address delivered by the Lord Chief Justice on passing sentence upon the murderers Lonergan, the Codys, Corboys, and Daly, unusual prominence was also given to what has hitherto been a latent terror of the law: the religious feelings of the people on the point of burial were brought to aid the effect of judgment—

And now I am about to pronounce the dreadful sentence of the law, which consigns you all to an ignominious death, and, except in the case of one of you, to an ignominious burial. Your remains, the law says, except of one of you, must not rest in holy or consecrated ground. You must be buried, and your graves must be within the precincts of the gaol; there you will lie side by side with murderers, and your ashes will moulder and mingle with theirs until the final day of judgment.

Sentence of death is rarely passed without silence being broken by wailings of the culprits' friends; but on every occasion of this sort under the Special Commission, the ceremony has been gone through in solemn stillness.

STATE OF THE POOR.—The provincial journals of the south and west contain further afflicting intelligence of the spread of destitution and the progress of the "clearance" system. In Macroom union, county of Cork, the ratepayers have sent an address to the guardians, declaring that "hundreds of the poor must inevitably perish if not assisted," and calling upon them to grant "out-door relief to the aged and infirm and other such helpless classes." The *Ballyshannon* (Donegal) *Herald* states that threatening letters have been sent to the poor-rate collectors in that union.

MR. SHAW, THE MEMBER FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN, has surprised his constituents by issuing a retiring address. Ill health, and a desire to give more attention to his judicial duties, are the causes assigned: an Irish comment suggests the further influence of "some disappointment." Mr. Napier is in the field, with many chances in his favour.

THE CASHEL BENCH OF MAGISTRATES.—The following have been the gentlemen who, within the last few years, usually attended this bench:—R. Long—Father shot, himself twice fired at. W. Murphy—Father shot. Samuel Cooper—Brother shot. Leonard Keating—

Nephew, Mr. Scully, shot. E. Scully—Cousin, Mr. Scully, shot. Godfrey Taylor—Cousin, Mr. Clarke, shot. Wm. Roe—Shot. C. Clarke—Brother shot; a nephew, Mr. Roe, shot!

RESIGNATION OF MR. D. O'CONNELL.—It was stated at the Repeal Association on Monday week that Mr. D. O'Connell intends to resign the representation of Waterford. His pecuniary circumstances (it is said) do not permit him to continue in Parliament. The candidates for the vacant seat are, Mr. Napier and the Judge of the Prerogative Court, Dr. Keatinge.

DR. M'HALE AND THE POOR-RATE.—It appears that the statement made respecting the non-payment of his poor-rate by Dr. M'Hale was incorrect.

MORAL AND PHYSICAL FORCE.—At Dublin, on Wednesday, there was a stormy meeting of the Irish "Confederates;" the question of debate being "Peace or war?" Mr. Smith O'Brien proposed a set of resolutions to restore unanimity, and pledging the association to peace. Mr. Mitchell moved an amendment in favour of war. He deprecated all "balmy balderdash" about peace and that sort of humbug. "There is," he said, "no opinion in Ireland, worth a farthing, which is not illegal." The debaters could not agree, and adjourned their discussion. The debate was renewed on the following day, and a resolution at length carried in favour of moral force.

ALTAR DENUNCIATIONS REBUKED BY THE PROPAGANDA.—A great sensation has been produced in Dublin by the publication of an important rescript from the College de Propaganda Fide at Rome, condemnatory of altar denunciations. It is addressed by the Holy See "to some, if not all, of the Catholic prelates of Ireland:"—

Most Illustrious and Reverend Lord.—The reports now for some months circulated by the English newspapers, concerning the political party strifes in which some ecclesiastics have allowed themselves to be carried away, and the desecration made of some of the Irish churches, for the purpose of aiding and promoting secular concerns—nay, more, the reports which have reached us relative to the murders which we are informed are so frequent, and by reason of which the clergy have been stigmatized, and some of them charged with imprudence, and as giving indirect provocation from the pulpit—or, at least, extenuating the guilt of these murders—these reports must surely awaken the solicitude of the sacred congregation. This sacred congregation cannot bring itself to believe that such reports, so extensively noised abroad, can be true; nor can it believe that ecclesiastics have forgotten that the church of God should be the house of prayer—not of secular concerns, or the meeting-house of politicians; neither can the sacred congregation believe that ecclesiastics have ceased to recollect that they are ministers of peace, dispensers of the mysteries of God—men who should not involve themselves in worldly concerns—in a word, men who should abhor blood and vengeance. Nevertheless, this sacred congregation deems it its duty to require satisfactory and speedy information concerning all these matters, that it may know what importance it should attach to the above-mentioned damnable reports. Wherefore, at the suggestion of his holiness, I have deemed it my duty to forward this letter to your lordship, praying you to satisfy this most reasonable solicitude of the sacred congregation; and meantime it exhorts you to admonish the clergy, that, seeking the things which are of Jesus Christ, they sedulously apply themselves to watch over the spiritual interests of the people, and in no wise mix themselves up with worldly affairs, in order that their ministry may not be brought into disrepute, and those who are against them may not have wherewith to charge them. I pray God long to preserve your lordship.—Rome, from the Congregation of the Faith, Jan. 3, 1848.—J. PH. CARD. FRASSONI.

No doubt immediate steps will be taken by the Irish hierarchy to make up their defence, and probably one of the ablest of their body will be sent over to "answer all such questions as may be put to him." The choice is likely to fall on the Bishop of Derry.

"FARMER'S ESTATE SOCIETY OF IRELAND."—As soon as the necessary arrangements are completed, an application will be made to Parliament for the incorporation of a company under the title of "The Farmers' Estate Society of Ireland," the objects of which will be found defined in the following extract from the prospectus, issued this day:—

The Farmers' Estate Society propose purchasing eligible estates in fee, as they come into the market, and selling them afterwards in small lots of not less than forty statute acres (24a. 2r. 31p. Irish), the preference being given to the tenant in possession, if unobjectionable in other respects, and the purchase-money taken in half-yearly payments. The purchase-money being thus taken by instalments, the purchaser can expend any capital he possesses in the cultivation of the land, erecting buildings, and making other improvements; and as he improves he will be the better enabled to pay larger instalments until the purchase shall be completed—a system materially different from the present, under which the farmer generally gives all he possesses to get possession of a farm, and has no capital left for cultivation or stocking. Provision will be made to prevent the subdivision of any farm so purchased to less than twenty acres, on the principle of the act 31st Elizabeth, c. 7, which was passed before the introduction of the poor-law into England.

The project has met with the decided approval of the Earl of Clarendon; and the provisional committee already comprises the names of Earls of Courtown and Devon, Lord Monteagle, Sir Edward Borough, Sir D. Roche, Mr. Monsell, M.P., Mr. Fagan, M.P., Mr. Guinness, M.P., and several other influential country gentlemen. The capital sought to be raised is £1,000,000, in 50,000 shares of £20 each.

CONVICTION FOR MURDER.—In the Central Criminal Court, on Friday, Harriet Parker was tried for the murder of the two children of R. Blake, a man with whom she cohabited. The facts of the case were too clear to admit of any doubt; but the jury, in finding her guilty, accompanied their verdict by a strong recommendation to mercy, "on account of the unparalleled provocation she had received," to which Baron Alderson, one of the judges who tried the prisoner, shortly replied,—"that the children had given her no provocation." In passing sentence, Baron Alderson said that he could not but consider her offence one of great aggravation. Blake had, no doubt, behaved very ill to her; but what ground was that for her to wreak her revenge upon his children, who had given her no offence? The recommendation to mercy should be forwarded to the proper quarter; but, under such circumstances, he dared not hold out any hope that her life would be spared. Sentence of death was then passed in the usual form. The prisoner, when the sentence was delivered, exclaimed, "God forgive you, Blake; you have brought me to this."

DEPARTURE OF THE GOVERNOR OF BORNEO.—Mr. Brooke and suite, and attendants, embarked on board the "Mæander" on Tuesday, and in the afternoon that frigate put to sea. The vessel has since put back to Plymouth.

NATIONAL DEFENCES.

GREAT MEETING AT GLOUCESTER.

On Thursday night one of the largest meetings ever held in this city took place in the Shire-hall, convened by the right worshipful the Mayor. Fully 3,000 people were present. The town was placarded, announcing that Henry Vincent would be present and address the meeting. One of the aldermen of the city occupied the chair. The meeting was addressed with great effect by Samuel Bowley, Esq., by the highly respected pastor of the Baptist church, and others. Mr. Vincent, who was received with hearty cheers, addressed the meeting at length. The resolutions opposed to the increase were passed with one dissentient. Three cheers were given for peace and fraternity, and three for Henry Vincent, and the dense mass quietly dispersed.

GREAT MEETING AT WORCESTER.

On Friday night a densely crowded meeting of all classes of the inhabitants of Worcester was held in the Town-hall, convened by the Mayor, to hear an address from Henry Vincent against any increase in the national defences, and in favour of a general reduction of taxation. The right worshipful the Mayor occupied the chair, and was surrounded by the principal inhabitants of the city. Not only was the Town-hall crowded, but hundreds went away unable to obtain admission. The Mayor in opening the meeting stated, that they had assembled to hear an address from their friend Henry Vincent, Esq., who would receive a right cordial welcome at their hands. He was happy to state that Joseph Sturge, Esq., had come over from Birmingham, and would offer a few words before Mr. Vincent addressed them. Mr. Sturge briefly addressed the meeting, apologizing for standing a moment in the way of his friend, and proceeded to give a number of valuable statistics, showing how unjust any increase of our military or naval system would be. Mr. Vincent was then received with loud cheering. He dwelt upon the fact, that the cry of danger had not come from the bankers, merchants, shopkeepers, mechanics, labourers, women or children, but from the army party, who had an interest in increasing the taxes, and living upon them. He maintained the right of civilians to decide the question of peace or war, taxes or no taxes; reviewed the state of Europe, and deduced therefrom the growth of popular power, civilization, knowledge, and commerce; proved that England from her position and power was to set an example in favour of diminishing war establishments; and contended that the Holy Alliance of Despots was falling, and that our aristocracy wanted to revive the military spirit in England to prevent continental revolutions and changes reaching this country. He then referred to our heavy taxation, maintained the necessity for reduction, dwelt upon the blessings of peace—highly eulogized Richard Cobden, and concluded a long speech, which produced a deep impression, amid loud and long-continued cheering. The right worshipful the Mayor and three gentlemen were appointed a committee to draw up an address to a portion of the French people. Three cheers were given for the Mayor, and the meeting quietly dispersed.

ANTI-WAR MEETING AT HUDDERSFIELD.—Yesterday evening a numerous meeting of the inhabitants of Huddersfield was held in the Philosophical-hall, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning the Legislature against any further augmentation of the army and navy. The meeting was called in pursuance of a requisition to the constable, containing the names of about 160 respectable merchants, tradesmen, and shopkeepers. On the platform and in the room we observed Messrs. Williams Willans (Chairman), T. A. Heaps, John Newhouse, Joseph Batley, T. P. England, C. W. Jones, Joseph Boothroyd, and Isaac Robson, Thomas Pirth, William Cooper, and several other gentlemen, members of the Society of Friends. The proceedings were spirited, enthusiastic, and unanimous.

A large meeting of a similar character was held at Halifax, on Friday.

THE DONCASTER PEACE SOCIETY convened the inhabitants together, on Friday evening last, and the meeting, after hearing the arguments advanced, unhesitatingly affirmed that there was no need for augmentation of our military and naval forces; and a petition to the House of Commons, in accordance with these views, was unanimously adopted.

NORWICH.—A public meeting of working men was held at the Temperance-hall, Exchange-street, on Tuesday evening last, for the purpose of taking into consideration, and adopting measures, with respect to the scheme of national defences about to be broached by Government. The following among other resolutions was adopted:—

That this meeting conceives the glaring and disgraceful fact, that the working classes are not in the possession of their political rights, renders the threatened addition to our war establishments additionally objectionable; and determinately resolves to seek, by moral and constitutional efforts, the attainment of those rights, as the means of preventing the recurrence of similar outrages upon the peaceful principles of the community.

On Monday night a public meeting, to record an expression of opinion with regard to the supposed probability of an invasion, was held at the Lecture-hall, Greenwich. Mr. Wade presided; and the meeting resolved—

That this meeting desires to record its deliberate conviction that the apprehension of war and invasion is unfounded, and that an increase in the existing naval and military forces of the empire, whether by the enlargement of the standing army, the enrolment of the militia, or the establishment of additional fortresses, or by any means whatever, is not only uncalled for and unnecessary, but must inevitably tend to destroy rather than preserve peace, to lower the tone of public morality, to impede the efforts making for the instruction and improvement of the people, to retard the great moral reforms now in progress, to burden more heavily the present generation or their posterity, and to aggravate the commercial difficulties of the nation.

NATIONAL DEFENCES, AND RESOLUTION OF "NO VOTE, NO MUSKET."—A very crowded and respectable meeting, composed chiefly of operatives, was held in the Exchange-room on Monday evening, to give their opinions on the above questions. Mr. Colin Black having been called to the chair, Mr. Robert Cochran shortly addressed the meeting in support of resolutions

condemnatory of any increase in the war establishments of the country, and on the injustice of exacting military service from the people at large, who are excluded from the privileges of citizenship, in the election of their civic rulers or their representatives in Parliament. Mr. Adam, from Glasgow, then moved an ably-drawn petition in favour of the extension of the suffrage, vote by ballot and the other changes contended for by the charter; which having been agreed to with applause, Dr. McDowall, who had been announced to lecture on the subject of the national defences, next addressed the meeting at great length, in opposition to the project of making preparations to resist an invasion from the French.—*Glasgow Post.*

THE NATIONAL DEFENCES.—Petitions are now getting up in Pontefract, signed by David Longstaff, Esq., Mayor, and a great proportion of the respectable inhabitants, praying that there may be no increase in the army and navy. The petitions will be presented to the two Houses of Parliament.

AUGMENTATION OF THE FORCES.—A correspondent of the *Times* gives the following as the augmentations to be proposed by the Government in our military establishment:—"To relinquish our empty arsenals, add about 2,000 men to the artillery, and gradually (by 10,000 men at a time) call out and discipline the militia—these, together with the completion of the fortifications already in progress, are understood to be the defensive and precautionary measures which Parliament will be invited to sanction." Necessary as these measures are (says the *Times*), they are no doubt expensive, and the bill must run up pretty high.

NATIONAL DEFENCES COMMITTEE.—A body lately organized in London, under the name of the "National Defences Committee," has just issued an "Address to the British Nation," counselling firm resistance to the proposed increase of our army and navy, and placing in a striking light the various powerful reasons, political, economical, moral, and religious, why the people should set their faces against it. The address, in conclusion, exhorts to immediate and energetic action, as follows:—

How then is a measure, so full of mischief, to be frustrated? The committee suggest that this can be done:—1. By every person immediately and energetically employing all the means within his power, to induce the Government to abandon the project. 2. By every elector, combining with others, in holding public meetings, in immediately sending deputations, letters, or communications, to county and borough members, urging them to vote against any measure that shall in any way promote this object. 3. By every town and village immediately forwarding petitions to the House of Commons, strongly deprecating any such method of wasting public money, and by promoting and adopting friendly addresses to towns and cities on the Continent.

COLONEL THOMPSON'S NEW SERIES OF LETTERS TO HIS CONSTITUENTS.

We are glad to see that Colonel T. P. Thompson has commenced a series of letters to his constituents, similar to those which he addressed to the electors of Hull when representing that borough in Parliament. The following is the first of the series:—

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE BRADFORD REFORM ASSOCIATION.

Sir,—In compliance with the expressed wishes of many who supported me at the late election, it is my intention to resume the practice—which was found useful, in gone-by times, at Hull—of making a weekly report of the proceedings in the House of Commons.

If my friends insisted on a statement of the general impression made by the short session, it would probably be, that the House is composed, in greater proportion than in times past, of men who have lately attained the legal age of twenty-one years, and that there are increasing tokens of the extent to which the substantial determination of public questions is transferred to what a Roman might have called the *comitia prima*, or to the assemblages of the community in places of their own selection. The House of Commons must always be the place where the results of public opinion will finally be registered; but it is every day becoming less the place where public opinion is created and fashioned. In cases of this kind it is not easy to say how much is cause and how much effect; but the insuperable wearisomeness of the debates is the phenomenon which visibly connects itself with this transference of power. The Ministerial agents, and their ex-Ministerial opponents, do their office in a way than which nothing can be better. But all beyond is a quagmire of gentle dulness, irremediably hostile to the performance of any serious business except counting the votes after a conventional quantity of tedious pantomime has been gone through. Fancy, for instance, that the Free-traders had attempted to introduce their question by way of the House of Commons. Or imagine that the member for the West Riding, or anybody else, desirous of speaking his mind on questions which have arisen since, had fixed on the House of Commons as the place where his efforts should be made. He would either not have been heard, as, indeed, seems a necessary result from the axiom that a vessel filled to the brim already cannot be made to hold anything more—or perhaps he would have had a charge of intended assassination made against him, as is the Parliamentary method of trying to put down an unpleasant opponent. But the member for the West Riding knows a great deal better. Not a word does he utter in the House of Commons during the session, but he goes to Stockport, and there gives vent to his misgivings that things are not going as they ought. And next he calls a meeting of the men of Manchester, and of the women too, and to them he confides his cares and fears, the Ministerial representative sitting by to carry to his colleagues his estimate of the leaning of the Lancastrian mind, and the strength with which it is supported. There is more sense in this than in listening to a two hours' speech from the representatives of a few drunken men whose votes are paid for. On the whole, the right key has been struck. It is not what a member does in the House, but what he does out of the House, which is effective; and the man who does his work well in one place carries the influence of it into another. This would have been something like treason once; but it is grown into good popular law, and nobody thinks of resisting it. Neither honour nor duty calls on men to do their work in an unfavourable way, when they can do it in a better; and if county meetings and the House of Commons are changing places, it is the result of causes which it is useless to oppose or to deplore.

Touching the times and mode of future correspondence, there will be every opportunity for arrangement; and we shall, in all probability, fall into the method most favourable to general objects.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

T. FERRONET THOMPSON.

Blackheath, London, 31st Jan., 1848.

THE LATE RAJAH OF SATTARA.—A Special General Court of Proprietors was held on Wednesday at the India House, pursuant to a requisition from the gentlemen who advocate the cause of the late Rajah of Sattara. Mr. Hume moved a resolution urging an inquiry into the case of the deceased: but, although he was supported by several proprietors, the question was again shelved; the Chairman moving an adjournment, which was carried by 63 to 26.

The *Stanford Mercury* states that "None of the London newspapers arrived in Lincoln last Sunday: they were taken by mistake to Liverpool, and reached Lincoln on Monday morning."—Rare management.

LITERATURE.

THE PERIODICALS (FEBRUARY).

WHAT with the Hampden drama and the French invasion, we are afraid that the public will be too deep in their newspapers to take much delight in the less exciting contents of the magazines. It happens, however, this month that there is an extra tax upon their diligence; for in addition to the ordinary shoal of literary minnows, there are no less than four of those Titans of the Row, the reviews—to wit, the *North British*, the *British Quarterly*, the *Eclectic*, and the *Prospective*. If, however, our readers will "lend us their ears" for but a little space, we will do our best for their entertainment, by just glancing at those topics which are most likely, at the present moment, to awaken the strongest interest.

On opening the *BRITISH QUARTERLY REVIEW*, we observe that its editor, on entering upon the fourth year of his labours, makes an appeal to the public for increased support; but we must say we prefer looking for a recommendation to the number itself, which is as rich in solid material, if not as brilliant, as any of its predecessors. The topics are sufficiently numerous, and very varied. The most profoundly interesting are "The Doctrine of Future Punishment," and "Chemistry and Natural Theology;" and if the reader do not linger over the elaborate picture of "English Society under James I.," and the article on "The Persian Fire-worshippers," it will be because he is eager to reach the pen and ink sketches of the "Public Men of France," or the enticing notice of the reckless and impudent novel manufacturer, Alexandre Dumas. The article on "Birke's Christian State" is a very able one, formidable in argument and moderate in tone. On regarding the work, and others like it, Dissenters may well exclaim, "O that mine enemy would write a book;" for they seldom fail in obtaining fresh evidence of the essential weakness of the cause of State-churchism from the efforts made by Churchmen in its support. The one in question is by an evangelical clergyman, and is written with ability, earnestness, and honesty of purpose. The writer, however, has a happy knack of putting his opponents' arguments into just such a shape as will enable him to dispose of them with the greatest facility. The most stubborn objections are thus, by the aid of loose logic and fervid plausibilities, met with a readiness and a confidence which is quite edifying; and we can almost fancy the author shaking hands with himself in congratulation at his performance. The main fallacy at the bottom of the whole argument is in his first of all asserting certain duties to be incumbent on Christian people and Christian rulers, and then blinking the awful fact, that the Government and the nation are, to a great extent, composed of neither, drawing such inferences as will serve to support the theory of a Church Establishment. This is ably pointed out by the reviewer, as is also the author's investing of the Government with parental functions, although he has himself previously denied to them the parental character. The great thing required is, it is observed, not official, but individual piety; the former being the nurse of hypocrisy, the latter rendering the other altogether needless, at least in the sense in which it is treated by Mr. Birke. There is, also, a clever instance of the *reductio ad absurdum*, in the remarks on the use frequently made of the injunction, to "do all things to the glory of God;" and we are glad to meet with the manly protest against "a very common fault in our popular evangelical theology," of "describing everything in human nature apart from the regenerating power of the Gospel, as being so much pure evil belonging to the world and to Satan." The concluding portion of the article may attract some attention, as being manifestly intended as an apology for what may be called Conservative Dissent. Asserting the principles of Dissent to be subordinate to the truths of the Gospel, it represents the duty of urging them on society not so much absolute by as to be determined by circumstances. Neither are the public yet prepared for it; and we are reminded of the strength of the Establishment, and the prejudice existing in its favour. The movement party among Dissenters, by taking up an aggressive position, have driven the Church to adopt active measures for strengthening its foundations, and, "by endless expedients, to cut off the supplies from the camp of Nonconformity." The effect of this is to be seen in the decaying condition of Dissent; the restlessness and strife within its borders, induced by a disputatious policy abroad; and the disposition to attribute all failure to the pulpit, and to look for something like a miraculous interposition there. All this is not directly stated by the reviewer, as being his own sentiments; but, of the two parties, "his judgment is more with" those who thus think, than with those who hold a different opinion. He is, however, "far from recommending silence;" and trusts that Dissenters "will unite in opposing all further grants of public money for religious purposes." The sentence with which he closes we give entire. "If we have complained somewhat of the course pursued by individuals towards us, we feel assured that our brethren generally will acquit us of having expressed, or intended, anything disrespectful towards them in any of the statements that have appeared in this journal on the topics adverted to. It has never been ours to attribute their conduct to the influence of unworthy passions or disreputable motives." This is not the place to enter on an examination of these views; and we will, therefore, content ourselves with the remark, that in the spread of voluntarism in the Church, coupled with other principles now strongly operating within its pale, we

think we discern the gently opening door through which she will walk forth from her bondage to a land of liberty.

The article on the "Christian Ministry," occasioned by the appearance of Mr. James's "Earnest Ministry," and similar works, contains much suggestive matter, and tells, at least, some painful truths. The ministry of the present day is represented as being behind the requirements of the age, and wanting in the intelligence and power of adaptation requisite to grapple with "the Pantheism which is eating its way to the core of everything Christian among us." In this respect, the Establishment and Nonconformist bodies are alike wanting; while the diminution of candidates for the ministry among the latter, especially in the case of young men of station and education, renders the evil the more alarming. To bring about a better state of things, something more is wanted than books on the subject, even though they be as able as those adverted to; while the suggested remedies lie, we are told, in the placing "of a higher estimate on ministerial labour, in a moral point of view, and in affording to the occupants of the sacred office a more liberal remuneration than they at present receive." We are inclined to think that the writer's views do not embrace the whole case, and particularly that the clergy are themselves answerable for a portion of the distrust and disrespect with which they are said to be regarded.

TAIT'S MAGAZINE has three papers which will well repay perusal. The first is on "Parochial Education in Scotland, viewed in Relation to the Government Scheme," which, should it be applied on the other side the Tweed, will be even more unjust and mischievous than here. The second, on the "National Defences," affords fresh illustration of the worse than childish folly of those who would scare us by the threatened horrors of a French invasion, in supposing that 50,000 men—including cavalry, and artillery, and commissariat—could be surreptitiously landed in this country with as much ease as fifty kegs of smuggled brandy! Why, it appears that the railways could not carry such an army from Paris to the coast in less than a week; and that, when there, it would require one hundred steamers for the men, and ninety more for the horses, to set them down at the terminus of the Dover Rail (*vide Punch*)—while France has no more than one hundred in the world! Such being the case, we may surely safely dismiss our fears, and exclaim in the language of Othello, slightly altered—

"Silence that dreadful Duke;
He frights the isle from its propriety."

The other article to which we have alluded is on the Sanitary question, and is one of a series of papers devoted to a moral trigonometrical survey of London. The evidence taken by the Health of Towns' Commissioners forms the basis of remark; and besides the written description of particular portions of the metropolis, as regards sewerage, waterage, and ventilation, there are several graphic engravings, which will assist the imagination of those who are afraid to venture their eyes, ears, and noses—to say nothing of their persons generally—into the narrowest and foulest of our courts, alleys, and back settlements.

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW—containing articles on the "West India Immigration Scheme," "The Navigation Laws and National Defence," "Bunsen's 'Church of the Future,'" "The Hampden Controversy," and "Medwin's Life of Shelley"—is both practical and entertaining. Chevalier Bunsen's book is strongly provocative of remark, but our space forbids it. "Moonshine and rhapsody," "much profound absurdity, mingled with much scriptural truth and common sense," are among the qualities ascribed to it by the reviewer, who makes some good hits in the course of his exposure, and retorts upon the author, that "if the ministers of religion are the worst qualified for either civil or ecclesiastical government, he has afforded them ample revenge, by showing, through the whole volume, that a minister of state may be the greatest of all bunglers in religion." We are glad to have the Prussian Ambassador's assurance, that he "in no wise aims at anything so detestable and vile as the Union of Church and State; that a state-church is the 'unfree inheritance of the later Roman empire and the middle ages,' that it is often impracticable, and, where practicable, a 'legal fiction, partaking of the nature of falsehood,' nothing better, when weak, than 'a lifeless machine of the state,' which is sure, in case of conflict with the state, to be crushed; and when powerful, 'a dangerous political institution,' that must of necessity persecute, and 'whose steps may be traced in violence and blood.'" But we are no less perplexed than the reviewer, to understand how such views are reconcilable with the author's proposal to strengthen the Prussian State-church by "billeting upon the enslaved people of Prussia a large standing army of nearly 90,000 ecclesiastics, all of whom are to be the creatures either of the clergy or the State." The fact is, that the Chevalier Bunsen is not blind to the evils of the present state of things; but, as yet, he sees "trees as men walking." We wish him clearer eyesight, and a right heart to make use of it.

We cannot stay to make more than a passing remark upon the remaining articles in the number; but that on the Immigration scheme should be carefully read, as containing a statement of the real condition of the West India colonies in relation both to negro emancipation and free-trade, and exposing the fearful mischiefs to which the proposed importation of labourers will inevitably lead. "The Case of Dr. Hampden" has some excellent points, and particu-

larly contains a considerable amount of information respecting the origin of the long-continued persecution of Dr. Hampden, whose manly conduct throughout claims our warmest admiration. It may be interesting to our readers to know the reviewer's opinion respecting the famous Lectures which have originated this eventful struggle:—

"As an act of justice, we think it becomes us to say, that after carefully examining his 'Bampton Lectures,' there appears to us no valid ground for even a suspicion of his orthodoxy upon either the Trinity or the divinity of Jesus Christ. In his 'Observations on Religious Dissent' he has given no license to latitudinarian doctrine, no sanction to heresy, but simply endeavoured to screen those who dissent from orthodox doctrine, against the anathema of Churchmen. He objects to investing Dissent in religion with the awe of the objects about which it is conversant. He admits that we may guard against supposed errors with more caution and accuracy on account of their solemn importance, but says, we must not wield against the person the terrors of the invisible world—we must not say, that 'without doubt he shall perish everlastingly.'"

Our notice of the remaining reviews and periodicals must be deferred until next week.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, February 9.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

In the House of Lords last night, the second reading of the bill for opening diplomatic negotiations with the Court of Rome, was fixed for Thursday week. The Marquis of Lansdowne observed, in reply to the Earl of EGLINTON, that, in his opinion, the interests of the Church in this country would not only not be injured, but would be benefited by the step meditated. If it could be shown that such would not be the case, her Majesty's Government would not persevere with the measure. This voluntary pledge imparted to the Bishop of EXETER great tranquillity of mind; and would, he said, enable him to consider the provisions of the bill with a calmer spirit than he could otherwise have preserved. The other business on the paper was then disposed of, and their lordships adjourned.

MR. ANSTAY'S MONSTER BILL OF INDICTMENT AGAINST LORD PALMERSTON.—In the House of Commons Mr. ANSTAY, notwithstanding repeated applications to postpone his motion, and let the adjourned debate on the Jewish Disabilities Bill proceed, made a dash at his long-meditated impeachment of Lord Palmerston, by moving, as a preliminary to his promised motion for an impeachment, for papers connected with the foreign relations of this country with all parts of the world since the year 1829, his motion for these papers monopolizing no less than four pages of the Parliamentary paper, and comprising forty different sections, emblazoned with such names as Adrianople, Unkiar Skellessi, Moldavia, Wallachia, Constantinople, Sweden, Russia, Poland, Spain, Portugal, and France, London and Washington, Great Britain, Mexico, the United States, and even Texas, Greece, Turkey, Algiers, India, Persia, and China; treaties of commerce and alliance, holy and unholy, with shahs, czars, emperors, kings, princes, and councillors of state, and relieved with individual appellations from Peter the Great to Alexander M'Leod. This description of his motion will suffice to show the extent of range which the honourable and learned gentleman proposed to himself in attacking the noble lord. To give a summary of the speech founded upon this elaborate indictment would be as impossible as it would be to compress the solar system into a glass case—its great object being to charge Lord Palmerston with high treason—in subserving, throughout the whole course of his policy, the ambitious designs of our natural enemy, Russia, which, through his traitorous machinations, had pushed her frontiers fully one thousand miles nearer Calcutta and Teheran, three hundred miles nearer Stockholm, and eight hundred and fifty miles nearer the capitals of Western Europe, and was only waiting until opportunity offered to make a meal of Turkey, to swallow at a gulp the whole Scandinavian peninsula, and to wind off with Denmark as a dessert. Having stated the main object of his speech, Mr. Anstey proceeded to its details; but the more deeply he got into them the thinner grew the House, until at length empty benches were substituted for an overflowing attendance. At this critical moment an hon. member who thought the subject one of too much importance to be listened to by less than a quorum, with an evident intention of having it on some future occasion submitted to a full House, moved a count of the House, which was thereupon not only counted, but counted out.

GREAT YARMOUTH ELECTION.—The following members were appointed to constitute the committee for the trial of this petition:—Mr. E. Ellice, jun., Mr. Plowden, Mr. Lushington, Mr. H. Stewart, and Mr. H. K. Seymour.

NOTICES OF MOTION.—MR. HUNT gave notice that he would, on that day fortnight, move for a select committee on the subject of the slave-trade.—MR. FAGAN gave notice that he would move, on the 22nd instant, that the House resolve itself into a committee to take into consideration the statute of Charles II. respecting ministers' money in Ireland, with a view to the removal of these taxes.—LORD JOHN RUSSELL gave notice that, on Friday week, he would make the financial statement to the House.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Tranquillity is completely restored at Naples. Accounts from Palermo of the 29th ult. (the day on which the new constitution was proclaimed in Naples), announced that a suspension of arms had been concluded between the insurgents and the troops, and that the latter had retired to some distance from the city. An order for their immediate return to Naples had been forwarded to the Duke de Majo. An insurrectionary movement had also broken out at Messina, but no collision had taken place between the people and the garrison, which had retired into the forts and the citadel.

The French Chamber of Deputies commenced on Monday the discussion on the paragraph of the address

in which the King expressed a hope that the agitation excited by hostile passions or blind delusion would disappear before public reason, enlightened by free discussion, and by the manifestation of legitimate opinions. M. Duvergier de Hauranne was the first speaker:—

It had pleased the Cabinet, he said, despite of all constitutional rules, to accense the intention of upwards of 100 deputies who had figured at the Reform banquets. The Opposition was not afraid to be belied by the country, whatever the majority might decide, in declaring that those *réunions* were perfectly legal, and that the Ministers of the Interior had committed an illegality in prohibiting them. M. de Hauranne could even cite decrees of the Court of Cassation to substantiate his opinion, and to prove that the law invoked by M. Duchatel was completely obsolete. Under the Restoration similar banquets took place without any opposition, and several of the Ministers themselves had been principal actors in them. MM. Guizot, Salvandy, and de Broglie had repeatedly proclaimed them legal, and M. Guizot had set the example of such manifestations at the celebrated banquet of Lisieux. M. Duvergier de Hauranne, in conclusion, declared that he and his friends would, notwithstanding the ill-will of Ministers, persevere in the course they had adopted, and continue to oppose agitation to corruption.

M. Guenault, who followed, was left vindicating the conduct of the Government. [It appears that M. Guizot has contrived to frighten his wavering adherents into good behaviour, and that the thirty Conservatives who intended to propose an amendment, promising reform, have consented to postpone it. The motion to do so at the meeting of the malcontents on Sunday afternoon, was, however, only carried by a majority of those present. Nevertheless, it is said that Ministers have made up their minds that something must be done, but that something will be as little as possible, and it is not by any means likely to meet the wishes of the country.]

THE QUEEN OF THE FRENCH is said to be in ill health. The King has determined to take a trip to Pau for the re-establishment of his own and the Queen's health.

A letter from the Spree, in the *Cologne Gazette* of the 6th inst., states that it was currently rumoured in diplomatic circles that meetings were to be held between the great powers, to be prepared for any eventuality that might arise in the case of a not unlooked-for event occurring in France.

On dit that in case of Lord Morpeth's elevation to the upper house by writ, the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be brought forward for the West Riding of Yorkshire, resigning his seat for Halifax.

MR. T. S. DUNCOMBE, M.P.—In the House of Commons last night, two months' leave of absence was granted to the hon. member for Finsbury, on account of ill health.

LAST NIGHT'S DEBATE.—It is stated by those who were present that the rush of members to the door to get out at the commencement of the great speech was pretty nearly as great as that of a crowd to get in when the "Swedish night-gale" is to warble at the Opera. Poor Mr. Anstey's feelings, as he saw his audience dwindling away before his eyes, must have been painful in the extreme. "How long will Catiline abuse our patience?" The Conscript Fathers sneaked away, and Catiline remained bowing to the orator with the blandest good-nature. That is pretty much the story of last night.—*Times*.

HEALTH OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.—The answer to inquiries made at Lambeth Palace late last night was, that his Grace was not worse than he had been during the day, but that he still continued in a very low and exhausted condition. The medical attendants of the venerable prelate are said to entertain but little, if any, hope of his recovery.

At 12 o'clock this day there was to be a grand demonstration of sailors in favour of the Navigation Laws. All the boats from the vessels in the docks and in the pool were to assemble at Shadwell; and at twelve o'clock they were to be formed in three lines, each headed by a steamer, and in this manner proceed up the river. The sailors were to disembark at Waterloo-bridge, form in Trafalgar-square, and go in procession to the Home Office, where the delegates will be granted an interview with Sir George Grey, the Secretary of State, to whom will be entrusted the petition for presentation to the Queen, praying her Majesty not to sanction any alteration in the Navigation Laws of this country.

STATE OF TRADE.—Advices from Manchester state that a decided improvement in trade is observable there, and the demand for yarns is increasing. We are glad to find from nearly all the trade reports of the manufacturing districts that a revival of business is generally expected.

STOCKPORT.—BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—A public meeting was held in the hall of the Lyceum, which is the largest public room in the town, on Monday evening, the 17th inst., for the purpose of receiving a deputation from the British Anti-state-church Association, consisting of the Revs. Charles Stovel, of London, S. T. Porter, of Darwen, D. R. Stephen, of Manchester, and Mr. Williams, the Secretary of the Association. At seven o'clock James Watts, Esq., of Heaton Villa, was called upon to occupy the chair. During the course of the evening resolutions were submitted setting forth the objects contemplated by this Association, and ably supported by the gentlemen above named and others resident in the town. Notwithstanding the efforts which, we are informed on good authority, were made in some quarters to get up an opposition, the speakers were listened to most attentively, their sentiments were greeted with enthusiasm, and, except in the case of a few dissentients located in one corner of the room, to whom nothing but a strict regard for truth induces us to refer, the resolutions met with universal approbation. At about ten o'clock the proceedings were concluded, and the audience retired evidently much gratified, considering the few occasions on which the claims of the Association had been brought before the people of Stockport. The meeting was beyond our most sanguine expectations, and if the friends of the Association residing on the spot will but exert themselves, the same and even greater sympathy will be awakened on behalf of religious liberty than has been enlisted on behalf of commercial freedom; indeed, the large attendance on Monday evening attests the interest already felt in the great question now agitating the public mind, for the audience, we understand, was not inferior in point of number (we were not present at that meeting) to that which listened, a few weeks ago, to the valedictory address of the champion of free trade on his resigning his political connexion with Stockport to take his seat for the West Riding.—*VERITAS*.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9, 1848.

Since Monday the arrivals of grain are very limited. The demand this day for wheat is but trifling; though, to effect sales, rather less money would be taken. The same applies to other articles.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 730; Foreign, 2,160 quarters. Barley—English, 250 quarters. Oats—English, 3,610; Irish, 2,780 quarters. Flour—English, 470 sacks.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE "NONCONFORMIST."

On and after Wednesday, March the 1st, the *Nonconformist* will be enlarged EIGHT PAGES, without any increase of price. The paper will then contain 24 pages, or 72 columns, of closely-printed matter.

The *Nonconformist* will continue to be published, as heretofore, every Wednesday afternoon, at the Office, 4, Horse-shoe Court, Ludgate-hill, price 6d., 13s. for 6 months, or 26s. per annum. Orders are received by the Publishers, MIAL and COCKSHAW, (with payment for a year or half-year in advance,) and by all news-agents throughout the country.

The increased size and circulation secured to the *Nonconformist* by this change will make it a desirable medium for Advertisements, which are inserted on very moderate terms; viz.—

For Eight Lines and under 5s.

For every additional Two Lines 6d.

Half a Column . . £1 | Column £2

Advertisements intended for the first enlarged number should be sent not later than Monday, the 28th of February. Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or an order for payment in London.

* Friends desirous of circulating the Address announcing the enlargement may receive any number of copies on application to the Publishers.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received more letters on the subject of "War" than we have space to publish, or our readers would have inclination to read. We shall therefore adopt the plan of describing the purport of those which we do not insert, and appending to them such remarks as we deem needful.

"A New-Churchman" points out that civil government is only of divine permission, because of the hardness of men's hearts, just as to the Israelites things were suffered and statutes given that were not good—Exod. xx. 24, 25, 26—(absolutely), and that it will continue only until the heaven of Christianity has leavened the whole lump. This thought substantially runs through the whole of our "Politics of Christianity," and has been formally expressed by us more than once.

"W. Malden" falls into the error of confounding, and supposing us to confound, the divine institution of civil government with the divine appointment of civil governors. Now we never made any such blunder; and if he will look back to an earlier paper in the series, he will see that, although we hold the ordinance of a public administration of justice, in the place of private revenge, to be of God, we hold also the forms of government, as well as the appointment of its officers to be of man. We know not how this can be interpreted to mean "the divine right of kings to govern wrong."

"Philo" runs a parallel between the alleged inconsistency of war and the precept "Love one another," and that which may be made out between mercantile ventures and "Take no thought for the morrow," and draws a humorous picture of the shifts to which literal obedience to the command, "If any shall take from thee thy coat, let him have thy cloak also," would subject one. He draws attention also to the command of Christ to Peter, "Put up thy sword," not "Throw it away;" and to his saying to his disciples, when about to leave them, "He that hath no sword, let him sell his coat and buy one."

"Jos. Christy, Reading," puts his arguments in the shape of a jest—"Wanted a list of the Christian duties that will be required of mankind during the Millennium, which are not required now. Wanted, selections from the New Testament for the use of Military and Naval Chaplains, and their hearers. N.B. The Sermon on the Mount, and Paul's description of charity, and all kindred passages being found inconvenient, should be omitted." Now we have no objection to a humorous sally, more especially if it hit right home. Our correspondent, however, uses a tool which may cut his own hands. Let him substitute for "Naval and Military Chaplains," the words "Barristers at Law," and N.B. will be just as applicable. The answer to him, however, will be found in the extract we quote from the letter of our next correspondent.

"N.N." The gist of his letter is contained in the first paragraph of it:—"There is, I imagine, little or no difference of opinion between yourself and your correspondent, 'Pacifus,' on the subject of 'war.' An apparent difference exists, simply because you view it in its relation to civil government, while he regards it in its relation to Christianity. 'Pacifus' says,—'3rd. The precepts, practice, and spirit of Christianity are opposed to the precepts, practice, and spirit of war'—his argument, in its complete form, would be—therefore, civil government should not engage in war; but this is to 'beg the question,' or, at least, to assume what is incapable of proof, viz. that the civil government is a Christian government. 'Pacifus' labours under the mistake that the precepts of Christianity were intended for 'the world,' whereas they were intended only for Christians—those who are 'not of the world.' It was not to men generally; but to 'his disciples' that Christ said, 'Resist not evil; but, whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.' And the Saviour, to make this as plain as possible, said to Pilate: 'If my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews.' Christ himself, therefore, points out the essential difference between 'his church' and 'the world;' and I verily believe that, next to conforming itself to the world, the greatest sin of the church, is in seeking to make the world conform to it. It is spiritual adultery in each case."

[Our correspondent having made a suggestion, that a column of our paper should be set apart weekly for the discussion of the question of war, during the next twelve months, we are bound to reply. We think, with all due respect, that his own letter is an illustration of the inextricable maze into which such correspondence would run. Its termination. The points, for instance, he has discussed, do not touch our argument. There may be an analogy between the policeman and the soldier, in those respects which he has pointed out. But, then, we never intended upon it that there was. The analogy to which he expressly referred was, that which lay in the fact that the force employed by both, is consistent with Christ's precept, "Resist not evil," and this he has neither attempted to disprove nor to explain. Our argu-

ment was not intended to assert the right of individuals against Government, organized and ordained for that very purpose, to protect its subjects. We asserted that when the alternative is between anarchy, or the state in which every man becomes his own judge and avenger, and war, Government is bound to choose the latter. We did not assert nor imply, that physical force is the proper weapon to compel civil rights, much less religious claims—nor can our reasoning be tortured to any such conclusion. What we did say, in substance, and what has not yet been overthrown, is this—that civil government is an ordinance of God for the prevention of social confusion and anarchy, by organized and public physical force—and that, where, in order to accomplish this end, it must destroy life, it is authorized to do so. Physical force, we never asserted to be a Christian method of repelling invasion—nor is imprisonment a Christian method of "resisting evil." Our whole argument had reference, not to the proper conduct of Christian individuals, but to the duties of secular governments. The last was the subject which came before us, in due order, for discussion—the first we did not touch, simply because it was irrelevant.—Ed. Noncon.]

"H. S. H." says, "In doubtful questions it is surely better to take the highest authority—therefore I esteem the precepts of our blessed Lord, more binding, than some things 'hard to be understood' written by Paul." See where the defence of an erroneous theory will drive a man! If Paul spake "by inspiration of the Spirit" his authority is as high as it can be—if not, he is no authority at all. But what if Jesus and Paul really spoke in unison? Is it not more likely, than that the one contradicts the other? Again we refer to the preceding extract.

"E. Kenway" recommends us to read Jonathan Dymonds' "Moral Essays." We have read them with great profit and pleasure. But as he is not infallible, we cannot yield assent to conclusions based as it appears to us upon mistaken assumptions.

"John Jones." The publication of his letter would subject us to an action for libel.

"An aged correspondent." We are sorry we overlooked his letter. We have not seen the works referred to—nor can we, as he wishes us, give the title-pages in full, with his recommendation, without making ourselves liable for the advertisement duty.

"J. E. C." Wellington. The *Nonconformist* is not published before Wednesday afternoon.

RECEIVED FOR THE DEFENCE OF J. SIMONDS, THE CHURCH-RATE VICTIM.

	£	s.	d.
A Friend	0	2	6
E. S. Robinson, Esq., Bristol	0	10	0
A Few Friends connected with the Baptist church, Alcester	0	8	6
Mrs. Delafite, Bayswater	1	0	0
Mr. W. Brown, Liverpool, per Mr. C. Gilpin	0	4	6

We have great pleasure in copying the following paragraph from the *Bucks Advertiser* of Saturday last:—

"THE SIMONDS FUND.—We are happy to be able to announce that the public have so generously responded to the call made upon them to contribute towards the support of this fund, that the committee are more than enabled to meet every item of expense. Further contributions, therefore, are not now required. The result shows that, when a good principle is at stake, the religious community know well how to value the victim of harsh, cruel, and unrighteous dealing."

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1848.

SUMMARY.

PARLIAMENT re-assembled on Thursday last, and instantly proceeded to public business. The first matter which came before it for discussion was a motion by Lord George Bentinck for a select committee of inquiry respecting the condition and prospects of the West India colonies. The noble lord, in the able speech in which he prefaced his motion, seemed to appear as the representative of no special class, but merely of that principle which he has taken under his especial protection. Several of the remedies suggested by the West India planters he threw overboard as useless. Some of their complaints he deemed exaggerated, if not fictitious; the whole gist of his argument was intended to enforce upon the House a return to the abandoned principle of commercial restriction. The Chancellor of the Exchequer met his antagonist with an assertion of a sound principle, and Whig-like, with proposals which fritter away the practical value of what he had before mentioned. The Sugar-duties Bill, which provides for a gradual assimilation of import duties upon colonial and foreign sugars, is to be maintained intact, in deference to free-trade. But the country is to be saddled with the expense, to the extent of £200,000, of importing into the islands African emigrants; thus giving, in the shape of a bounty upon cheap labour, what was refused in the shape of discriminating duties. The speech of Mr. Wilson, who followed the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was both lucid and able, and, as might have been anticipated, pointed out with considerable effect, the discrepancy between the principle enounced by Government and the practice proposed to be adopted. The appointment of a committee, however, was acceded to—but upon the express understanding, that no change would be made in the policy of Government, other than that which Sir Charles Wood had already announced. The question has been discussed also in the House of Lords, in which Lord Stanley and Earl Grey were the chief speakers. It is not necessary to advert to the statements of the first noble lord, inasmuch as the general tenour of them coincides with that which runs through the speech of Lord George Bentinck. Earl Grey challenges a remark or two, not to say an expression of astonishment, in consequence of the mode in which he treated the rights of the negroes, considered as free men. If the sentiments he expressed on this head are to be taken as indicating the course of policy which, as Colonial Secretary, he intends to pursue,

then the secret of his anxiety to forward schemes of immigration may be readily explained. We are sorry to see such sentiments come from such a quarter; and certain we are that they will find small favour with the bulk of the English people.

On Monday night the second reading of the bill for "the Removal of Jewish Disabilities" was moved in the House of Commons, and a long and wearisome debate ensued. Mr. Stafford moved the amendment, and repeated arguments which have been over and over again met and refuted. The principal novelty of the evening was the speech of Mr. Wood, who based his support of the bill upon the sound principle of the essential distinction between the Church and the State—the things of Cæsar and the things of God. The numerous fallacies which spring out of the maintenance of this union, which he rightly states to have originated in the corruption of the Christian religion, he dealt with effectually, by a sound and vigorous logic; and in a speech of great power, listened to with considerable attention, he developed in their fulness and purity the essential principles of the Anti-state-church Association. Thus far with regard to the debate itself, which was adjourned. Of the bill we cannot speak so favourably. The form of the oath to be administered to Jewish members requires them to disclaim all intention of subverting the Church Establishment as now settled, and of exercising any privileges they may acquire of disturbing the Protestant religion, or the Protestant basis of our government. Our attention has been called to this fly in the ointment by a correspondent, who, in ignorance of its existence, pleaded the cause of our Jewish fellow-subject last Sunday, and induced his congregation to sign a petition in favour of the passing of the bill. He now asks, with some concern, shall we keep our petitions in our own hands, or shall we send them up, accompanied with our protest against this part of the bill? In reply, we are bound to state our conviction that no protest would be received; but we do hope that, in future, such petitions as may be sent up by Protestant Nonconformists may conclude with a prayer that the bill may be passed into law without any restriction whatever upon the legislative discretion of those whom it proposes to admit to senatorial honours.

On the question of National Defences, we have a semi-official announcement in the *Times* of the intentions of Government. They comprise the increase of our artillery force by 2,000 men, and the calling out of 150,000 militia, at the rate of 10,000 in each year. We have already adverted to the pernicious effect which any such arrangement must have upon the character of our population, and in a future number we may devote a separate article to the expansion of our views on this subject. At present it will suffice that we point to the real cause of the proposed augmentation of our military force. It has been alleged, and not hitherto denied, that Lord Palmerston has signified to the Austrian Court that the British Government will consider any armed intervention of Austria in the affairs of Italy tantamount to a declaration of war. New burdens, then, are to be laid upon the people of England in order to give the fuller and freer scope to the meddling propensities of our Foreign Secretary. Not to repel invasion, but to dictate the policy of other states, is the reason of the fresh demand upon our purses and our patience. We earnestly trust that it will be resisted to the utmost, and the common sense of the English people will rebuke, as it richly deserves, the busy, quarrelsome, and dictatorial spirit which the Whig Government are assuming in the conduct of foreign affairs.

Other matters we may dismiss in a trice. Ireland has witnessed two things of late that may well surprise her—the close of a Special Commission, which has accomplished its object, without serious difficulty, and the publication of a rescript from the Pope rebuking political ecclesiasticism and altar-denunciations. The appearance of this document on the same day which gave to the public a report of a short conversation in the House of Lords on the introduction of a bill by Lord Lansdowne for establishing diplomatic relations with Rome, is a curious coincidence. Possibly the one may be more closely connected with the other than at first sight appears, and perhaps the mission of Lord Minto, could its history be given to us, might account for both.

Foreign Intelligence we have embodied in a separate article.

REMOVAL OF JEWISH DISABILITIES.

FROM the adjournment of the debate in the House of Commons on Monday night, upon the second reading of the bill for the removal of Jewish disabilities, more especially after the ample discussion taken upon it when leave for its introduction was sought, one might be led to infer that the principle involved in it was singularly abstruse, or that the mode of its application in this particular instance was opposed by numerous and perplexing difficulties. The case, however, is precisely the reverse of this. The principle is so plain, so just, so authoritative, as to have won for itself the recognition of a Legislature previously steered in prejudice against it—and the extension of it to the Jews is forbidden by so few reasons of policy, that the only wonder is how the subject could be made the groundwork of more than a few cursory observations.

For ourselves, we know not how to deal with it, simply because it is too obvious for argument, too trite for expatiation. One might almost as well attempt to expand into eloquence, proofs of the proposition that two and two make four. Inasmuch,

however, as the question presents itself as the prominent topic of the week, and has moreover evoked such a flood of parliamentary theology, we are compelled to pass it under review, and to clear away the rubbish by which senatorial ingenuity has surrounded it.

Parliamentary representation, which, in order to its completeness, must include, free admission of the elected to the House of Commons, as well as the possession and exercise of the franchise by electors, is a civil right correlative with civil obligations. They who sustain the burdens of the State, ought to participate in the direction of State affairs. Such is the axiom laid down by Lord John Russell—an axiom which we have never seen successfully controverted, and one which we may remark in passing will bear much larger conclusions than any he is disposed to rest upon it. The theory of the British constitution is at one in this respect with the spirit of Christian morality. "Taxation and representation should be co-extensive," is but another mode of expressing the same idea. Its abstract truth few will be found to deny. It has upon it the stamp of justice. It commends itself at once to reason. It cannot be rejected without rejecting the very basis of representative government. And on this ground, the Jew asks admission to senatorial power, as a right which he may claim in common with every subject of the realm.

The refusal of this claim must needs be maintained on other grounds than those of simple justice. What are those grounds? Not, as in the exclusion of the bulk of the labouring classes from the franchise, a pretence of civil policy. Certain as it is that civil policy and justice to all must coincide, and that expedience should never override the dictates of moral obligation, it would be superfluous to urge such considerations here. It has never been alleged against the Jew that he is disqualified by his civil or social position, by poverty, ignorance, or disaffection, for the post which he seeks. No danger to the State can be pleaded as a bar to his rightful claims—not even a temporary inconvenience. On all questions relating to the preservation of life, property, and freedom, he is allowed to be as competent to frame laws for the community as any other of her Majesty's subjects. Here, then, is a civil right, against the full enjoyment of which no pretended reason of State policy militates—the question is why should it be withheld.

Thus far, then, the course of argument is clear. We arrive at this point, without having met with a single objection worth recording, much less refuting. Between this, however, and our conclusion, an obstacle deemed to be insurmountable, is presented, in the supposed requirements of Christianity. What reason approves, and justice demands, in this instance it is pleaded, religion condemns. Well! We ask for proof, and in so grave a case, we require, for our satisfaction, that it be fetched direct, not from Constantine, but from Christ. Where is the precept, where the principle, given us by Divine revelation, which imposes upon us, even by implication, the obligation, of withholding a civil right, on the ground of religious opinion or faith? Where is the example which sanctions the proceeding? Is a reason for thus abridging the rights of our fellow-men found in the declaration of our Lord—"My kingdom is not of this world"? Does it lurk, unseen, beneath the precept—"Do unto others what ye would they should do unto you," or the apostolic injunction, "Render unto all their due"? Can we discover it in a single passage of the history of Jesus, or of the acts and writings of His Apostles? On the contrary, all these point in the opposite direction, and may be cited in favour of the principle involved in this discussion.

The objection is founded upon a gross assumption—upon the identity of Christianity with the union, which it repudiates, between the Church and the State, between a system of spiritual influence, and one of physical force. Upon the integrity of this union, the admission of Jews to Parliament, will undoubtedly effect a breach. Hence the outcry! Hence the unwonted solemnity of the discussion! But we take leave to observe, that the thing threatened is not Christianity, but a human expedient only, and that a very absurd one, for the maintenance of Christianity. Sophistry may attempt to disguise this—but all in vain. The more the question is stirred, the more certain it is that this distinction will be found as a sediment left by the discussion. Even in the House of Commons, it is gradually forcing itself into recognition. Before long, it must be accepted as the basis of a much wider course of action than that now proposed. The way is being cleared, by men for the most part unconscious of the service they render, for the challenging in Parliament of the propriety of preserving any constitutional alliance between the Church and the State—and the removal of Jewish disabilities will carry with it a virtual solution of the question, as to the relation in which the civil magistrate should stand to the religion of his subjects.

A GLANCE AT CONTINENTAL POLITICS.

THE present year has already become memorable in the annals of Europe. On the same day—the 29th of January—two Sovereigns, the one in the north, the other in the south, acknowledged the right of their subjects to liberty, and virtually abrogated their claim to despotic power, by conceding representative institutions. In our little island, intent upon questions of domestic interest, we are apt to forget that other countries besides ourselves are

making rapid progress in liberal ideas. The events of the last few weeks have undeceived us. The seeds of political equality have been fructifying in quietness for years past, in most unfavourable soils, and we see their growth in the constitutional charters granted to Prussia, and, more recently, to Denmark and the kingdom of the Two Sicilies. How profound must be the astonishment—how bitter the mortification of Metternich, and the concocters of the Holy Alliance, at the presumption of the democracy of Europe! It is but thirty years ago, that in the Congress of Vienna, a few cunning diplomatists were able without dispute to partition kingdoms and sign away the lives and interests of nations at their will. Now how changed is the scene! The tide of political brotherhood has advanced until the authors of the un-Holy Alliance are left deserted and almost helpless on a rock in the midst of the waves, without power to escape from the fate which threatens to overwhelm them.

The young King of Denmark, in his conduct since the death of his father, has evinced qualities which have agreeably disappointed the expectations of all parties. From his previous character, his subjects were led to expect a more arbitrary rule, and the withholding of the constitution promised by his father. Had such been the case, Denmark would, in all probability, have been the theatre of civil war. Prussia and Russia would have interfered, and the kingdom have been dismembered. The young King, acting under the dying advice of his father, has solved all difficulties by a timely and graceful act of justice. He has granted an amnesty to all political offenders, and has acknowledged the right of the people to a share in the Government, by convening their representatives to decide upon a new constitution. We have not yet heard how this announcement has been received in Holstein—the Ireland of Denmark—but there can be little doubt that the inhabitants of that duchy will be satisfied to remain in connexion with a monarchy which grants them greater privileges than would be conceded by any other German state.

In perfect contrast to the enlightened policy of Frederick of Denmark, has been the conduct of the Bourbon sovereign of the Two Sicilies. He, too, has granted his subjects a constitution; but there the analogy terminates. Coercion has at length wrung from him what the advice of his wisest councillors, and the reiterated entreaties of his subjects, have asked in vain. The last few months of his reign have been spent in an attempt to extirpate from his dominions all that savoured of liberalism and independence. Death, torture, expatriation, or the confiscation of property, have been the lot of all who dared to call in question the right of this brutal despot to unlimited power. Such crimes against humanity as he has committed would for ever cover with infamy the character of the most unbridled democracy the world has ever seen. But monarchs are allowed a strange license, even by those who advocate the rights of their subjects. More indignation, by far, has been expended upon the government of Switzerland by our own press, for the expulsion of the Jesuits, than upon the King of the Two Sicilies, for his savage barbarity towards his subjects. Happily, the reign of terror, both in Naples and Sicily, has come to an end. The people have proved too strong for the troops of the sovereign, and have even triumphed over the horrors of a three days' bombardment of Palermo. After a revolution, surpassed in interest by few events of modern times, Ferdinand has saved his throne by conceding the demands of his subjects. On the 29th ult., a royal ordinance was issued, decreeing a national constitution for the kingdom of the Two Sicilies, to be founded on the same principles as the French Charter of 1830, including the two Chambers, the royal inviolability, the responsibility of Ministers, the liberty of the press, and the National Guard. Religious toleration alone is withheld. No religion, save the Roman Catholic, is to be permitted. How far these promises will be fulfilled by the King depends solely upon his fears. He has so often proved faithless, that no dependence is to be placed upon his honour. Meanwhile, it is some satisfaction to find that hostilities have been suspended.

The revolution in Naples and Sicily is pregnant with still more important results, when viewed in connexion with the present state of things in Italy. It is a mistake to suppose that the Italians are satisfied with the modicum of reform granted to them by their respective sovereigns, however willing they may have been to await, in patience, further concessions. The agitation created throughout the peninsula by the success of the Sicilian insurgents, is a symptom of the desire of the Italians for a real representative system. At present they possess nothing better than senatorial institutions, the members of which are chosen by the Government rather than by the people; and the Italian sovereigns show no disposition to go further in the path of constitutional reform. But the events at Palermo have increased the popular impatience for more radical measures; nor is it likely that it can be resisted, except by Austrian intervention, which the Pope and his allies may, in spite of their Liberal tendencies, be inclined to welcome rather than submit to a more disagreeable alternative. It would be contrary to reason and experience to believe that the spiritual power of Pius IX. could long exist in conjunction with really representative institutions. Hence the problem which is now being solved in Italy involves as much the ecclesiastical as the civil freedom of the people.

In what manner the revolution in southern Italy will influence the Court of Austria, already inflamed to madness by the moderate reforms effected in the central states, remains to be seen. With an army of 100,000 men ready to let loose on the slightest provocation, it is scarcely possible to believe that that power will much longer remain in quiescence. Lord Palmerston has, it appears, announced to the Court of Vienna, that the violation of Italian territory by Austria, will be held as a declaration of war against England. The people of this country may, therefore, before many months elapse, find themselves, by the meddling interference of their Foreign Secretary, involved in another continental war.

These important events in Italy have not been without their influence nearer home. Under the pressure of circumstances, M. Guizot has been obliged to disavow the sympathy of the French Government with Austrian despotism, and its adherence to Italian reform. The triumph of constitutional freedom in Denmark and Sicily has given a fresh impulse to the question of parliamentary reform in France. In vain do the king and his minister threaten and intrigue. Their hitherto passive supporters are divided. The great Conservative majority is split in two—one portion of which threatens to desert its leader, unless a stop is put to the popular discontent by instant measures of reform. It is possible that by the use of that influence which Louis Philippe knows so well how to wield, the breach may for the present be healed, without any concessions, or the ejection of M. Guizot. But such an arrangement can be only temporary. The popular demands are too earnest and general to be any longer trifled with; and be the result of the debates of the French Legislature what it may, the Government cannot, without risking the safety of the throne, much longer set at nought the just claims of the people.

WELCOME ASSISTANCE.

WE should be doing violence to our own feelings, and expose ourselves to the charge of ingratitude, were we to refrain from indulging in a word or two of comment, on the advertisement which appears in our columns of to-day, in reference to the claims of the *Nonconformist*. Of the meeting of gentlemen by which the Resolutions were adopted, and from which the "Appeal" has issued, we knew nothing—had no part, direct nor indirect, in convening it—and, of course, no influence whatever over its proceedings. The aid it seeks to render us is purely spontaneous—and from the report which has reached us, is as fervently offered as it will be gratefully received. We are told, that of those invited to the meeting, which was numerous, almost every individual attended—and when we look at the names of the movers and seconders of the printed resolutions, we have sufficient evidence that appreciation of our past course, as a whole, has been high enough to overtop disapproval of our views in particular instances. There is generosity, as well as justice, in this—and upon nothing connected with our labours do we look with more satisfaction, than upon this evidence that with all our earnestness, we have not cultivated in our readers a spirit of narrow-mindedness.

The "Appeal" is now before the public—why may we not second it? If the estimate set upon our labours be higher than we could have preferred, it is at least that of disinterested parties, capable of forming a correct and impartial judgment, and possessing all the materials necessary for doing so. In the face of their decision, no false modesty shall induce us to call in question what they have deliberately and unanimously resolved upon. We have not, then, toiled in vain. We have not wholly misappropriated, nor misdirected our powers. We have done something for Nonconformity which good and great men are forward to acknowledge. We are thankful for this result—a cheering one to us who have known more of the dreariness of seeming want of success, than of the pleasure which follows upon the fulfilment of long cherished desires, and oft-deferred hopes. We are strengthened by it. It ministers freshness to our faith in truthfulness, and supports our resolution to persevere through all discouragements. And we are cheered by it—for we verily believe it is the forerunner of much wider and more extensive usefulness.

Well! how is this Appeal to be responded to? If it contains truth, it ought to enlist every reader's conscience in behalf of the *Nonconformist*. Conscience we say—not feeling—not sympathy—not good-will—but conscience. We are stewards of the principles we hold—we are bound to do for their promulgation the best within our power. We cannot all speak—we cannot all read—but we can all promote the circulation of those organs, which most fitly develop the views we cherish. And what we can do, it is our duty to set about with "a ready mind." In this work, every individual may do service. We have before us at this moment, convincing proofs that "where there is a will, there is a way." To mention instances would be invidious—but they are such as to force from us the exclamation, "*O, si sic omnes*"—if all would thus exert themselves, our instrumentality would be tenfold more effective than it is.

It has been serious matter of reproach to Nonconformists, until very recently, that they have never troubled themselves to sustain their own organs. They have read and approved—but they have not been wont to go further. To inquire what help can be rendered—how it may best be given—or to offer help without inquiry, has been rare indeed. The meeting to which we refer, wipes away that reproach,

so far as we, and it, are concerned. It remains to be seen whether all earnest-hearted Dissenters will do likewise. We believe they will. They are entering upon better times, and are beginning to cherish a deeper sense of their responsibilities. The "Appeal" we fondly hope, is but an earnest of what is to follow—and they who have spontaneously made it, will, we trust, hear their sentiments echoed back by thousands of willing hearts. If so, our future course will be, if not more easily, much more pleasantly run.

The *Morning Post* states it to be the intention of the Queen to hold two levees in the course of the present month at St. James's Palace. A drawingroom is also spoken of as likely to take place at an early period.

A THIRD MAIL to arrive in London at about five in the afternoon, has been placed on the London and Birmingham line. Additional mails also have been recently placed on the Brighton and South-western lines. These additions have been effected by the co-operation of the companies, without further expense to the Post-office.

THE AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR JANUARY is very satisfactory as regards the winter corn. Indian cornmeal has come into favour with the graziers; and large quantities have been taken for feeding purposes. There is an immense quantity of hay still on hand, and cattle of all kinds fare remarkably well. The early lambing season has been very favourable, particularly in Sussex, Hampshire, and Dorsetshire.

FEAROUS O'CONNOR wants a public subscription to defend his seat for Nottingham. "Not less than £1,000 must be raised," says he, in his *Northern Star*. Let no time be lost," continues he: "only think that if only 240,000 persons subscribe one penny each, the £1,000 is got."—*Globe*.

THE STATISTICS OF ENLISTMENT show that during the last military year 27,093 men had enlisted, of whom 19,333 were accepted as fit for service. The recruits were in the proportions of 11,506 for England, 11,968 for Ireland, 3,304 for Scotland, 271 for Wales, and 44 for Foreign countries.

THE DUCHESS OF KENT is suffering under a severe attack of influenza, which seized her Royal Highness on Thursday.

At the annual meeting of the Governors of the Seamen's Hospital Society, Keying, Imperial Commissioner to the Emperor of China, was elected one of the Vice-Presidents!

THE PROTECTIONISTS AND THEIR LEADER.—A meeting was held on Monday at the house of Lord Stanley. The object of it was to elect a leader for the Protectionist party in the place of Lord George Bentinck, who announced that he had accepted brevet rank, and retired. There then is an end of the second phase of Protectionism. The truncheon has fallen from the hands of two leaders within the last three years. It is said, but we know not on what authority, that the Marquis of Granby will be elected in his place. As far as the public are concerned, the news will probably be read with little more interest than an announcement in the *Gazette* which should tell us of "Granby promoted vice Bentinck retired." The public just now are not careful of the proceedings of that which should be the Conservative party. This is not the fault of the public, but of the party. Let them abandon for ever the ridiculous name of Protectionism. They might as well take Stonehenge for a watchword, and groan over the wrongs of the Druids. The Conservatives of England want statesmen, not undertakers. As far as the young nobleman we have mentioned is known to the world, he is known favourably. He may or may not be equal to the emergency, but at any rate he is entitled to a fair trial.—*Times*.

THE EARL OF CARLISLE.—We are glad to learn that the Earl of Carlisle has recovered from his late severe attack of indisposition.—*Leeds Mercury*.

REPEAL OF THE WINDOW TAX.—Several meetings have been held within the last few days in different parishes in the metropolis, to petition Parliament for the repeal of the window tax.

CHARLES PEARSON, Esq., M.P. for Lambeth, has transmitted a subscription of five guineas to the Lambeth Nonconformist Electoral Association, which has just been established, the objects of which are, to effect a separation of Church and State, and for the shortening the duration of Parliaments.

DELIBERATE MURDER IN ST. JAMES'S PARK.—Henry Tucker, a soldier in the Second Battalion of Coldstream Guards, was shot dead by a woman, on Friday evening, in Bird Cage Walk, St. James's Park, close to the entrance into Queen-square. The crime was committed by Annette Mayers, a French servant girl, with whom Tucker had been intimate. The attention of several persons was first attracted by the report of a pistol, and the man was observed to fall; the woman leaving him at the same moment, and dropping a pistol. On being raised, Tucker breathed once or twice, but died before he could be conveyed to the Barrack Hospital. Mayers was in a state of great excitement; she made no attempt to escape, avowed her guilt, and expressed her satisfaction at Tucker's death; saying that she did not now care how soon she herself died. At the inquest held on Monday, a verdict of "wilful murder" was returned against Mayers. The occasion of her crime appears to have been jealousy.

NEWSPAPERS CAN BE LEGALLY LENT ON HIRE.—In the case of *Miller v. Chapman*, reported in this paper on Thursday last, and headed, "Newspapers cannot be legally lent on hire," it was decided by Mr. Dubois, at the Bloomsbury County Court, that newspapers could not be lent on hire. This decision, we learn, from a competent legal authority, is erroneous. There is no law against lending newspapers for hire. There was formerly an act (29 Geo. III., c. 50, 1798) which prohibited it under a penalty of £5; but that act was repealed by the present Newspaper Act, 5 and 6 Will. IV., c. 76, and the provision has not been re-enacted.—*Daily News*.

DUNDEE.—In the Established Presbytery the other day, it was stated that a legacy of £50,000 had been left to the town of Dundee for education purposes.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

WEST INDIA GRIEVANCES.

Both Houses of Parliament met on Thursday, for the first time after the Christmas recess.

In the House of Commons, the evening was occupied for the most part with a discussion on Lord George Bentinck's motion for inquiry into the West India case.

First, however, three petitions were presented—the petition of the Standing Committee of West India Planters and Merchants; one from the merchants, &c. of Greenock, against restraints on immigration and the employment of labour; and a third from merchants and others in Jamaica, praying for the removal of burdens, for a full supply of African labour, an alteration of the Navigation-laws, and an assimilation of the duties on colonial rum to those paid by the British distiller.

Lord GEORGE BENTINCK moved as follows, supporting the motion in a speech of great length:—

That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the present condition and prospects of the interests connected with and dependent on sugar and coffee planting in her Majesty's East and West India possessions and the Mauritius; and to consider whether any and what measures can be adopted by Parliament for their relief.

Lord George first defined his own position. His personal wish, as he was aware that his motion would be unopposed by her Majesty's Ministers, was to make no statement to the House: the observations he should make were offered only in deference to what he believed to be the general desire of the House and of the parties at large interested in the question. It had been represented to him by the colonial interest that the planters were in *extremis*, and that whilst redress was under discussion by the committee that great interest would perish. His motion had, indeed, been termed pusillanimous. It was, however, for himself to consider what was his power to obtain any substantial relief by a direct vote of the House. In July 1846, only five gentlemen connected with the West or the East India interests had voted with him in a minority of 130 against the majority of 265, who then negatived the protection now sought: he thought, therefore, that the West Indian interests had no right to blame him on the present occasion. He had no reason to suppose that the minority had been converted into a majority; but, to justify inquiry, he pointed to the extremity of the West Indies, to the failure of fifty great houses in this country with liabilities exceeding £6,300,000, and to the change in the public feeling on the subject of slavery and slave-trading—at the last general election not a word was said on the subject—those who were omnipotent in 1832 were powerless in 1847. In proposing his inquiry, he wished it to be distinctly understood, that he neither precluded himself nor wished to preclude any others, if a substantial measure for immediate and effectual relief should be brought forward, from lending their support to any such proposal. He hoped that he should be able, through the instrumentality of a committee of inquiry, to prevail upon the House to change its policy with regard to this great question. He did not seek to enforce the distinction between slave-grown and free-grown sugar, because that attempt would be followed by the overthrow of the Government; which he did not desire.

Alluding to the petition from Jamaica, Lord George declared that he could not agree with the demand for the repeal of the Navigation-laws; and he entered into a long statement of the rates of freight, to show that the West Indians suffer no injury from those laws. With respect to the differential duty on spirits, he thought that the British distiller would need its maintenance. He was not indisposed to give every facility for immigration, but doubted whether it would do much good. The state of Barbadoes, as densely peopled as China, shows that increased numbers will not suffice. He agreed with Mr. Merivale, the new Under-Secretary for the Colonies, that free-labour never can successfully compete with slave-labour. At the highest estimate, the cost of maintaining a slave in the West Indies was 50s. a year; in Jamaica, a free labourer is paid half-a-dollar a day, for six or seven hours' work; and he can scarcely be got to work four or five days in the week. In Cuba, the slave is made to work sixteen or even twenty hours a day; the driver armed with whip, cutlass, and dagger, and attended by blood-hounds. This is the kind of slavery which we are stimulating by the admission of slave-grown sugar into this country. However, there is no objection to immigration. Sir Charles Metcalfe declared, in 1840, that the fertile soil of Jamaica could provide for any multitude without diminishing the comforts of the existing population; and similar reports were made from other colonies. But the cost of immigration is too great for the planters to bear, especially with the obligation to send back the immigrants at the end of five years. He did not know why there should be this delicacy about removing an African, a Cooly, or Chinaman, when he is only transferred from one hot climate to another; and no such delicacy is shown to the British soldier, who is bound to remain ten years in an uncongenial climate.

Lord George turned to the case of the East Indies—invited by Parliament to exert themselves in producing free-labour sugar; contending that the faith of Parliament was as much pledged to them to enable them to repay themselves for the outlay of that capital as it was pledged to repay the Fundholder the debt that was due to him.

In July last, Mr. Hawes described Mauritius as being in a state of most flourishing prosperity: since that, out of six great firms in the Mauritius trade, but one remained standing: the liabilities of those who had fallen are estimated at £2,900,000; Ministers have been obliged to advance £450,000 on sugar, to enable the colony to go on, and to supply rice from India for the food of the labourers. That fact showed how utterly Ministers had been in the dark respecting the true state of her Majesty's colonial possessions, and would alone justify inquiry.

He wanted the inquiry also as a bridge of retreat for Ministers and the Free-traders. To make out the failure of the recent measures as measures of free-trade, Lord George plunged into an immense mass of statistical details. Against cheap sugar he set off the failure of our great merchants for more than £6,300,000; asked now free-trade had benefited Lancashire, now in so miserable a state—whether it had fulfilled the promise of opening the trade of Brazil? Comparing the sixteen months before with the sixteen months after the admission of slave-grown sugar, there has been a gross decrease in the production of cotton goods to the amount of 1,339,244 pounds, an increase of 168,082 pounds; taking into account the enhanced price of raw cotton, the balance remaining for wages and profits had declined by £1,871,003.

Lord George assailed the system for suppressing the slave-trade; calculating, with an immense array of figures, that from first to last it has cost this country £100,000,000. He proposed a substitute for the ineffective blockade of Africa. They would never put down the slave-trade so long as it depended upon blockading 10,260 miles of coast. He would, as Captain Pilkington recommended, strike a blow

at the head and not at the hand. He would not send an army to destroy every individual hornet, but go to the hornet's nest at once, and smother that nest of the slave-trade which now existed in Cuba. He had read in the *Times* an extract from an United States paper, in which it was stated, that if the United States did not possess herself of Cuba, Great Britain would; and that England had a greater claim by a hundredfold to Cuba than the United States had to Mexico, because a sum of £45,000,000 was due to British subjects upon Spanish Bonds, and Cuba was hypothecated for the payment of that debt.

Sir CHARLES WOOD: But would you seize the Brazils as well?

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK: The case of Cuba stood upon its own merits, and upon the debt of £45,000,000. That is the course which should be taken to put an end to slavery and the slave-trade.

Sir CHARLES WOOD, though not opposing the appointment of the committee, guarded himself against the supposition, that Government meant to recede from the course which they had chosen in 1846, and thought that he should be showing most kindness to the West Indians by stating distinctly what the views and intentions of Government are:—

Sir Charles declined to follow his "noble friend" through many of those topics which he had presented to the House; especially as he thought that no sound inferences with regard to the future could be drawn from the state of trade during the last twelve months. The extraordinary fall in the price of sugar, for example, he regarded as transitory, because he thought it owing to the generally disastrous state of commerce during the autumn. As great a fall was to be found in the prices of other articles—in indigo 25 per cent, in rice 26, in sago 51, and in tea 48 per cent. The houses in the Mauritius trade had fallen from causes totally independent of the price of sugar; and, in like manner, the West Indies had suffered from the failure of the West India Bank.

As to the grievances of the West Indies, Sir Charles contended that they had been much exaggerated; resting his case partly on a pamphlet entitled "Ministers and the Sugar Duties." The curtailment of the apprenticeship, he said, had worked well; the anticipation formed in 1844, that there would be a large increase in the production of free-labour sugar, had not been confirmed; and the distinction between free-labour and slave-labour sugar had proved to be incompatible with treaties. As the question of slavery had to be omitted from consideration, they were led to consider solely whether there should be protection or no protection. The proposal of the West Indians was to fix the differential duty at 10s. per hundredweight, or £10 per ton; the avowed object being to enhance the price by that amount. Last year the consumption of sugar amounted to 290,000 tons; the proposed enhancement of price, therefore, would be equivalent to a tax of £2,900,000, or say, in round numbers, £3,000,000. On the other hand, diminished protection has benefited the revenue, which has risen from £3,743,362 in 1845, to £4,596,696 in 1847, despite the great distress. Her Majesty's Ministers hold that duties should be imposed with reference to revenue alone. Government intended to propose such an alteration in the Navigation laws as would completely put an end to any discontent springing from that source. He should be happy to extend the use of molasses to brewers; but he thought that it would not be practicable, as molasses could not, like sugar, be made to bear an amount of duty equal to that on malt: but the experience of the past year had shown that there was no difficulty in admitting molasses into distilleries; he proposed, therefore, to introduce a bill, immediately, authorizing the admission of molasses into distilleries upon terms such as those on which sugar had been heretofore admitted. Cane-juice might be admitted on payment of an equivalent duty, but he understood that that would be prohibitory.

With respect to immigration, a statement which he held in his hand showed that it had been extensive and beneficial. The details to which he referred were as follows:—

Number of slaves in 1829.	Free Labourers imported into the following Colonies to 1846.
Slaves.	Labourers.
28,000	Mauritius..... { 63,000 Free. 23,000 Liberated Africans.
322,000	Jamaica..... { 8,500 Free. 3,000 Liberated Africans.
90,000	British Guiana... { 33,850 Free. 6,180 Liberated Africans.
24,000	Trinidad..... { 17,788 Free. 3,181 Liberated Africans.

It is found, however, that the present system of immigration does not answer; and he proposed a change. He knew that there was a risk in allowing the practice of taking negroes from Africa—that if parties were permitted to buy negroes for slaves, and to bring them from Africa upon the pretext of their being made free labourers in the West Indies, the permission would offer a direct encouragement to a renewal of all the horrors of the slave-trade. With this conviction, provision must be made that, if natives were brought from Africa to the West Indies, it should be with their own free will, though the Government were not disposed to throw any fresh obstruction in the way of the importation of free labour; and they were prepared to advance a sum of money not exceeding £200,000 for that purpose. Another source consisted in the liberated Africans. At present the cost of these liberated negroes was defrayed by the colonists; but the Government were prepared to cast upon this country the cost of conveying these negroes to the West Indies. But the great body of these negroes were set free at Sierra Leone; and he believed the transferring them to the West Indies would be not only beneficial to the negroes themselves, but to the colony of Sierra Leone itself.

Another measure of relief would be to postpone the repayment of the hurricane loan for five years; and a new loan would be made to Tobago, as a relief on account of the last hurricane.

Reading various extracts from the memorial of the Jamaica House of Assembly and other documents, Sir Charles contended that there was vast room for agricultural improvements in the West Indies; and if proper exertions were made, he did not despair of seeing those colonies restored to a state of comparative prosperity.

Mr. ROBINSON gave Government credit for the openness of their declaration; but thought that, if the West Indies could have no other measures of relief than those suggested by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, they must be prepared for the result—entire and irreparable ruin.

Mr. HUME and Mr. ELLICE also made light of the promised measures; but urged Lord George to withdraw his motion, and leave the whole of the responsibility on Government.

The debate was then adjourned.

Mr. JAMES WILSON resumed the debate on Friday night. He placed the whole question on the interests of the West Indian planters, on their demands for protection, and on the power of Government to grant those

demands. The West Indians rested their demands for protection on four distinct grounds; of which the first was, that if moral considerations compelled us to exclude slavery from our colonies, they also compelled us to exclude all sugar, the produce of slave labour, from the home market; the second, that slave labour was cheaper than free labour, and that it was therefore unequal and unjust to confine the West Indians to free labour entirely; the third, that the sugar of Cuba was the produce of slave labour, and ought therefore to be excluded; and the fourth, that the Imperial Legislature had power to protect the sugar colonies by excluding all sugar the produce of foreign colonies employing slave labour. He contended at great length that not one of these four propositions was true; and, in the course of his observations, entered into a laboured refutation of most of the arguments advanced by Lord G. Bentinck. He showed that 250,000 tons of sugar were now annually produced by free labour in countries east of the Cape of Good Hope, and suggested that even if the Legislature were to exclude the sugars of Cuba and Brazil on the ground that they were the produce of slave labour, the West Indian planters would still find it impossible to compete without difficulty with that enormous amount of free labour produce. He admitted that he had heard with great satisfaction the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, not merely because he (Sir C. Wood) had announced the intention of the Government to adhere to the act of 1846, but because he had also announced his intention to remove many restrictions which still pressed heavily on the West Indian planters; but he nevertheless thought that much further good might be conferred on the colonies by going into this committee, for if those planters were to be saved, it must be by a considerable change in the social relations of the islands in which they lived.

Comparing the social condition of the islands belonging to the British Crown with that of Cuba and of Porto Rico, he at once saw a very great difference to the manifest advantage of the latter islands. In Cuba and Porto Rico at least 400 per cent. of the whole population were white; 70 per cent. were free people, and only 30 per cent. were slaves in the two islands. But turn to the West India islands, and what was the fact? There was 74 per cent. of white people, while there was 924 per cent. of black labourers [hear, hear]. Was that a condition of society likely to promote any description of improvement, or lead to a state of prosperity by advantageously increasing colonial productions of any kind? In Cuba there were ancient Spanish families who had been settled in the island for generations. These families accumulated property and capital, which they expended in the island, introducing improvements on their estates, and enriching the population generally by their expenditure. But what was the fact with regard to the British colonies? They were regarded by the owners of the land as sources of revenue only to be expended in this country; few English gentlemen ever resided in them, and those few did so only for a short period, and that with the hope of very soon returning home to England to spend the rest of their days in affluence out of the fortunes they had realized in the islands. He would not say which was the best or most comfortable way of passing life, but he could not resist the evidence presented by the actual condition of the two sets of islands. In Porto Rico 47 new brick or stone bridges, 130 wooden bridges, and 134 miles of good roads, had been made within the last six years. Could any such improvements be found in the British West India islands? Upon the authority of Sir Robert Schomburgk it appeared, that no less than 800 miles of railroad had been constructed in Cuba, while in the whole British West India islands there were only 12 or 15 miles of railway formed. Whether the statement of Sir R. Schomburgk was strictly accurate or not, it was impossible to deny that these extra means of economizing labour must lead to a great increase of production. Looking at all these circumstances, it was impossible not to see sufficient cause why sugar should be produced cheaper in Cuba than it could be produced in our own colonies. Only last week he saw a ship going out to Cuba, and what did he find in that ship? He found iron tanks, for the purpose of bringing home molasses, to prevent 10 or 15 per cent. leakage, which British merchants lost in bringing home the same article from the West Indies. These were the economical means which ought to be devised and adopted by all those who consulted the interests of the British West India colonies.

With regard to the question of labour in those colonies, he at once admitted that great injustice had been done to the planters, from the period of the emancipation of the slaves to the present time, by restrictions unnecessary, onerous, and prejudicial in the extreme, not only to the interests of the planters upon whom they were imposed, but of the labourers themselves. He was aware that the prejudices of the people of this country at that time ran so high upon the subject of slavery that it would have been difficult for any Government to act otherwise than the Government of that period acted; but it certainly did display, on the part of the Legislature, a most unworthy jealousy either of the will or the power of the colonists or of the colonial governors, to carry out its own laws and institutions, to trammel them in the way in which they had been trammelled [hear, hear]. Nothing could be more prejudicial to the West India islands than the unnecessary restrictions placed upon the employers of labour in those colonies. Take the island of Trinidad. In that island the population afforded 29 persons to the square mile, and there were 1,000,000 of acres of waste land belonging to the Crown; yet, in that island, so thinly peopled, little or no means were taken to prevent vagrancy and squatting, or to compel the performance of contracts when made between the planters and the labourers, who, in a tropical climate, where the common necessities of life were easily raised, would not work an hour longer than was absolutely necessary to enable them to obtain the means of subsistence. The first thought which engaged the minds of the people of this country, on the emancipation of the slaves, was to impose stricter regulations upon the employers of labour in the colonies, to guard against the continuance of slavery under another name; but, by these restrictions, the interests both of the planters and labourers were sacrificed, and he believed it would take years to rectify the fatal error that was then committed. He had reason to think that this important view of the question had not escaped the attention of the Government of this country, for he found in a despatch of Lord Glenelg, addressed in 1836 to every one of our colonial governors, the same view was taken, and it was laid down as broadly and satisfactorily as any one could wish that it was incumbent on the colonists to adopt means for the prevention of vagrancy and squatting in the islands. But, as far as he could find, no answer was returned to that despatch, and no reference made again to it by Lord Glenelg, or any one of his successors. Vagrancy and squatting not only rendered the labouring population al-

most worthless to the planters, but demoralized the people generally to an extent that could hardly be conceived. One of the great means adopted in Porto Rico and Cuba to promote the prosperity of those islands was the enforcement of the most stringent measures against vagrancy and vagrancy. There were laws existing in this country to suppress vagrancy, and he knew no reason why, among a less civilized people, a more lax system should be adopted than was sanctioned at home.

With regard to immigration, he very much feared whether any good effect could result from it. It was the only part of the propositions made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to which he should feel an objection. The colonists were, in his opinion, entitled to bring labourers from where they pleased, and as many as they pleased, provided they did not transgress the law of the land. But it was one thing to permit men to use their capital in whatever way they might think best, and another thing for the Government to apply the money of the country to enable them to do it [hear, hear]. In the former case, they well knew that men would not employ their capital unless they were persuaded it would answer their purpose to do so; but in the latter case, there was no such security. Though he was willing to allow perfect freedom to immigration, still he much doubted whether, in the present state of the colonies, immigration could be of any benefit to them. His reason for entertaining this doubt was the present condition of the population in several of those islands. In Barbadoes, for instance, there were 734 persons to every square mile; in Jamaica there were 88 persons to every square mile; and in Trinidad there were only 29 persons to every square mile. But in Barbadoes there was just as much vagrancy, relatively to the population, as in Jamaica or in Trinidad. If, then, they were, by adopting immigration, to fill up the population of Trinidad to a level with Jamaica or Barbadoes, the squatting and vagrancy system would as extensively prevail in Trinidad as in either of those islands. He would much rather rely on an improved state of the law with regard to vagrancy and squatting, than on a system of immigration. He believed it was more advisable, by such an alteration in the law, to endeavour to turn to good advantage the labourers which the colonies now possessed, than by going to a great additional expense, seeking a problematical good by a system of immigration.

Mr. Wilson mentioned various facts to prove that the West Indies were not altogether "ruined," but that the worst of the crisis was passed:—

He read an extract from the *British Guiana Gazette*, which represented the increasing prosperity of that colony since 1844. The produce of sugar had remarkably increased, and that increase was solely in consequence of the introduction of Coolies and Portuguese labourers. In the very last paper received from that colony, the observations of the editor were of a most encouraging character. The writer observed that the colony of British Guiana depended wholly upon the sugar cultivation; that it was not only in a crisis now, but would have to pass through crisis after crisis; but they entertained a hope that things would, after the long run, go right, and would accommodate themselves to the new state of circumstances. The people, the writer observed, had with wonderful facility agreed, within the last few days, in the finest and most extensive sugar district, to accept a reduced rate of wages. This great change, the writer proceeded to say, had been effected without any strike or sulkiness, or manifestation of ill-feeling. This had taken the colonists by surprise; and though in wages the free labourer had been reduced twenty per cent., yet in character they had been raised in the opinion of the planters fifty per cent. Such (said the hon. member) was the account received by the last packet with regard to that colony which had been represented to be in the very worst possible condition. He thought, therefore, that looking at the whole question, there was no good reason to despair that these colonies, under wise regulations with regard to labour, and still more with regard to police arrangements for the prevention of squatting and vagrancy, would ultimately revive, and attain a state of prosperity as great as they had ever hitherto enjoyed. There was ample room for economy. In the Mauritius the expenditure was perfectly incomprehensible. The produce of that island was 50,000 tons of sugar, and the expense of the Government was upwards of £260,000 a year, being at a rate of between £5 and £6 a ton upon the sugar produce of that island. No wonder that Porto Rico, Cuba, and Java, should be able to compete with British colonial produce!

Mr. THOMAS BARING supported the claims of the West Indians. To maintain the colonies, they must increase their expenditure; and they would have to pay for their support the £300,000 a-year that the Mauritius now raised, and the £790,000 raised in the West Indies. Would they then say that the colonies cost them too dear, and that, as they could not afford to keep them, they must turn them off? Then let them speak out at once, and say what their colonial policy was to be—let them say whether on the principle of free trade they would allow the colonies there to sell themselves in the dearest and buy their government in the cheapest market [hear, hear]. But do not begin by ruining them, and making them beggarly appendages that no other Government would take under its care.

Mr. BERNAL said that what he claimed was a free admission of British West Indian sugars to consumption here in the same way that Irish and Scotch provisions and corn were admitted. The depreciation of West India property at present was such, that properties entirely unincumbered would neither let nor sell. In the island with which he was connected, a magnificent farming property, formerly producing £1,200 a-year clear, would neither let for £300 a-year, nor sell for £4,000. This was the result of the enthusiasm which had carried slave emancipation at a blow.

Mr. HEYWOOD advocated the removing of our squadron from the west coast of Africa; Mr. BAGSHAW supported the claims of the East Indies to relief.

Mr. DISRAELI said that the real problem before the House was the success of the new commercial system in the only branch of our imperial industry upon which it had been tried: it had proved, he maintained, a total failure. But the bulk of his speech was a very animated and trenchant attack on the paltriness of the Government policy and measures. He announced, for instance, that he should give an unqualified opposition to the vote of £200,000 for immigration—

He could not bring himself to think that such a sum could exercise any influence on the distress of the Colonies; it could not exercise any influence at all; and therefore he would not encourage the lax practice of public men, who, after having got themselves, by want of prescience, into difficulty, endeavoured to extricate themselves from it by a grant of public money. If there were the money to spare, it might become a question what would be the best thing to

do with it: perhaps it might be, to build a new National Gallery.

He contrasted the brief notice bestowed on the avowed remedies—the ten minutes devoted to molasses and immigration—with the hour and a half given to secret and inuendo remedies—the cardinal virtues of "energy" and "enterprise," preached by her Majesty's Government, in jingling words, in phrases, and loose abstractions.

Sir Charles Wood preached "competition;" but competition presumes equality of circumstances; and what is the equality between the Spanish and British colonies in the West Indies? The Spanish colonies having abundance of labour for which they pay nothing, the British colonies deficiency of labour for which they pay dear? Our headlong legislation, in fact, has created a differential duty in favour of the Spaniards. Such is the effect of being ruled not by facts but phrases!

The West Indian supply of 250,000 tons of sugar will disappear from the markets of the world; and what then becomes of cheap sugar? Of what use will the colonies be except as garrisons? and, indeed, what use can we have of garrisons, in the coming millennium of free-trade? Turning to Mr. Cobden, who sat at the bar, the historical moralist closed his speech thus:—

I will tell that honourable gentleman, who has announced perpetual peace, that there is something in the catastrophe of nations *seu armis*. There are the *longæ pacis mala* which have been denounced by the great satirist in immortal lines. But the limited experience of ancient Rome did not permit him to include in the indignant catalogue of the causes of national decay, the rapacity of rival industries and the quackery of economic science.

Mr. LABOUCHERE then replied to the observations which Mr. Disraeli had made on the ruin of the Mauritius. He showed that the Mauritius had, beyond all question, been the victim of the system of protection. He contended that free labour could compete successfully with slave labour, and expressed a hope that the West Indians would not listen to those who inculcated a contrary doctrine. He contrasted the language used by the West Indians, when speaking for themselves, with that of their advocates, when speaking for them. The colonists in Jamaica had publicly declared that the benefit of the repeal of the Navigation laws would be incalculable to that colony, and would rescue it from its dangers and difficulties. But their advocates in England represented such a repeal to be quite futile as a remedy for the West India distress, and as dangerous to every other interest in the empire. He next adverted to Lord G. Bentinck's plan of putting down slavery and the slave-trade, by seizing Cuba from Spain. He could not believe that his Lordship had seriously proposed such a design; but as it had been imputed to us by America, he felt it to be his duty, as a Minister of the Crown, to say that such an act would be most unjustifiable on the part of this country.

Mr. GOULBURN considered, that the remedies proposed by the Government were utterly insufficient, and therefore deemed it unnecessary to allude to them at any length. He hoped that, for the mere sake of saving a penny in the price of a pound of sugar, they would not abandon all their love for the freedom of mankind, and the amelioration of their species.

Sir E. BUXTON observed, that if time had permitted, he would have shown that the emancipation system of 1832 had not been a failure, but that it had answered all the expectations of its advocates, and that if it had not been for the fatal measure of 1846, it would have been a triumphant example to the other nations of the world of the expediency of getting rid of slavery. He was of opinion, that there was little chance of the free labour of our colonies competing successfully with the slave labour of other nations; and, therefore, he would have supported a differential duty of 10s. a cwt. for the purpose of preventing the increase of slavery. He thought that immigration was but a poor boon for the West Indies; and was sure that the country would never allow that immigration to be anything else than a free immigration.

LORD GEORGE BENTINCK, in his reply, explained why he could not yield to the recommendations of Mr. Hume and Mr. Ellice to withdraw his motion. If either of those gentlemen had expressed a readiness to support any substantial measure of relief to the West Indies, he would have acceded to their request; but all that he had heard from them was, that Government would not do more than what it had announced, and that his committee would excite hopes which would only be disappointed. He thought it worth trying whether he could not obtain by this committee such evidence as would at last bring conviction even to the House of Commons.

The motion for a committee was agreed to without a division.

The House having gone into Committee of Supply, Sir CHARLES WOOD moved a resolution permitting the use of sugar and molasses in distilleries, upon which the Distilling from Sugar Act will be founded. Agreed to.

On Monday night, on the motion of Lord George Bentinck, the following members were appointed a select committee to inquire into the present condition and prospects of the interests connected with and dependent upon sugar and coffee planting in her Majesty's East and West Indian possessions and the Mauritius; and to consider whether any and what measures can be adopted by Parliament for their relief:—Lord G. Bentinck, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Goulburn, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Cardwell, Sir T. Birch, Mr. H. P. C. Mr. C. Villiers, Mr. P. Miles, Mr. J. Wilson, Lord G. Manners, Mr. Ewart, Sir John Pakington, Mr. J. Matheson, and Sir E. N. Buxton.

DIPLOMATIC INTERCOURSE WITH ROME.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE introduced a bill for the purpose of enabling her Majesty to establish diplomatic relations with the Court of Rome, which was read a first time. On the question of fixing the day for the second reading.

LORD STANLEY said, that although it might be desirable that diplomatic relations should be established, as between temporal princes, the principle must be subject to such restrictions as might be necessary for satisfying the scruples of the people of this country. He there-

fore trusted that ample time would be afforded for deliberation.

The Duke of RICHMOND objected, that the intention of introducing such a measure ought to have been intimated in the Royal speech; it was one that a great portion of the people of England would consider as violating their religious feelings.

Earl FITZWILLIAM supported the bill, which only went to remove a doubt as to whether her Majesty's Ministers would not be liable to prosecution and penalties if they entered into diplomatic relations with the Pope as a temporal prince.

The Earl of EGLINTON claimed delay on behalf of the people of Scotland.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE intimated, that when their lordships had had an opportunity of perusing the bill, he would fix the day for the second reading.

WEST INDIA GRIEVANCES.

Lord STANLEY, on the same evening, on presenting various petitions from West India bodies, brought the state of the sugar colonies under the notice of their lordships, in a speech detailing the existing state of distress, the petitioners praying for the repeal of the act of 1846. The noble lord concluded by asking what measures of relief the Government contemplated in the state of things he had brought under the notice of their lordships?

Earl GREY, in a powerful speech, traced the gradual declension of colonial property and trade since the passing of the Emancipation Act; expressed the intention of the Government to adhere to the act of 1846; reiterated the course proposed to be taken by them as intimated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons on Friday last; and concluded by appealing to their lordships, as to whether he had not proved that the distress of the West India colonies was not attributable to legislation on the part of her Majesty's Government. We present an abstract from the noble earl's extraordinary arguments in the case—*planter versus free negro* :—

He thought the great fault of the Act of Emancipation was, that instead of making any provision for meeting the difficulties which were expected to arise, it only adjourned the period by continuing a modified kind of slavery—that of apprenticeship. No adequate stimulus had been brought to bear upon the mind of the negro, when that by which he had hitherto worked was withdrawn, and by deferring the time for meeting the difficulties which were certain to arise they had become greatly increased. The conduct of the negro in refusing to work in the same degree as formerly might easily have been foreseen. He was now able to earn in less than one day in each week more than he before received for a week's labour. Why then was he to work more than an hour a day? Was it rational to expect that he would labour as a slave when he might fix his own price on his labour and work as a free man? The great difficulty in the case arose from the gratuitous use of land by the negro. His lordship proceeded to show that as the negro could now obtain the use of land as easily as he did previous to emancipation, he would continue to derive the greater part of his subsistence from the cultivation of the land, and would only work for wages so far as to enable him to purchase the few articles of necessity which he could not raise for himself. Unless, therefore, some measures were adopted to raise the value of land, and render it incumbent on the negro to work for his master in order to produce the means of subsistence, the same want of labour and all its attendant difficulties must continue. He considered this state of things as highly injurious to the negro as well as to the planter. It was essential that the sugar cultivation should go on, and he believed it necessary for the real welfare of the negro that he should be compelled to do a reasonable amount of work in return for his subsistence. He differed from those who thought that everything which was bad for the planter was good for the negro; both their interests, rightly understood, were identical. His lordship then referred to the injurious effects produced by the plan of apprenticeship that had been adopted, and as regarded the planters, contended that one of the chief causes of their difficulties was the reliance upon that system of protection which they erroneously considered so important for their welfare. His lordship showed the fallacy of such dependence, and proved that it was at once the cause of the negro's unwillingness to work, and of the planter's embarrassments. And he asked whether it was to be tolerated that the people of this country should be taxed to the extent of three millions sterling per annum, in order to keep up wages in Demerara at such a point that a labourer could earn 2s. 1d. by five hours' labour, instead of eight, and the planter add his profits in the same proportion?

The BISHOP OF OXFORD, in presenting a petition to the same effect from the council and assembly of Barbadoes, urged that the people of England could not possibly share in the profits of Cuba sugar without incurring some share of the Cuba guilt, by which that sugar was produced; neither could they participate in the guilt without incurring the chastisement which awaited it. If the principles of the government measure were successful the abolition struggle would become a disgrace instead of an honour to this country, and the measures taken for the suppression of the slave trade, while they would add to its horrors, would be neither more nor less than an insulting and degrading hypocrisy.

Lord ASHBURTON considered that unless protection were continued to the West India colonies, as against slave labour, they would be consigned to utter and irreparable ruin.

REMOVAL OF JEWISH DISABILITIES.

In the House of Commons, on Monday night, a large number of petitions were presented for and against the Jewish Disabilities—the former greatly preponderating.

Petitions in favour of the Bill were presented by the Earl of Arundel and Surrey, from members of the Roman Catholic body; Mr. Thorneley, two petitions from places in Cheshire and Lancashire; Captain Berkeley, three petitions from Cheltenham; Mr. Williams, from Macclesfield, Marylebone, and other places; Mr. Lushington, from Westminster; Lord J. Russell, from 1,380 members of the English bar, 7,936 householders of Southwark, and others; Sir G. Staunton, from Roman Catholics of Portsmouth; Lord R. Grosvenor, from Highgate, Chelsea, Fulham, &c.; Lord Duncan, three petitions from Bath; Colonel Freeston, from Weymouth; Mr. H. Currie, from Guildford; Mr. Cockburn, from Southampton; Mr. E. Russell, from Biggleswade; Mr. Anderson, from Ulverstone, Wellingborough, Charleville, Norwood, and other places; Mr. W. Brown, fifteen petitions from Lancashire; Mr. J. Clay, one from the Jews, one from the corporation, and one from 3,000 inhabitants of Hull; Mr. Mitchell, from Bridport, Wolverhampton, Enfield, &c.; Sir H. Verney, from Bedford; Dr. Bowring, eight petitions from Bolton, Blackburn, Newington, and other places; Mr. Ward, from the common council of Sheffield; Mr. Fagan, three petitions from Cork; Mr. B. Carter, from Winchester; Colonel Thompson, from Bungay, and other places; Mr. S. Adair, from Cambridge; Mr. G. Craig, from 4,000 inhabitants of Edinburgh, and from Swansea, and other places; Mr. O. Ricardo, from "Friends" at Worcester; Lord D. Stuart, from the vestry of St. Marylebone, and Roman Catholics and others of Kentish-town; Mr. H. Adair, from Ipswich; Mr. Walter, from the corporation of Reading; Mr. W. J. Fox, seven petitions from Oldham and other places; Mr. T. L. Hodges, from the Jews of Sheerness and Ramsgate, from Tonbridge Wells, and other places in Kent, and from the rector and churchwardens of Gravesend; Mr. Hayter, from Wells; Mr. Muntz, from Birmingham (2), and from Westhead; Lord Henry Bentinck (57), from Oxford and elsewhere; Mr. Bright, from Bury; Mr. Cowan (3), from Edinburgh; Colonel Watkins (4), from Wales; Mr. Cobden (4), from Carnarvon, Boroughbridge, &c.; Mr. Charles Pearson, from Lambeth; Lord M. Hill, from Heywood, Ulverstone, and other places; Mr. Hume, from Chippenham and other places; Mr. Tuffnell, from Devonport (2); Mr.

Reynolds (4), from Dublin; Mr. Milner Gibson (6), from Manchester, one signed by 33,000 persons, and one from Liverpool signed by 25,000 persons; Mr. S. Crawford, from Rochdale and other places; Mr. W. Cowper, from Hertford; Sir W. Clay, from the Tower Hamlets, signed by 13,700 persons; Mr. Bernal (3), from places not heard; Mr. Aglionby (2), from Carlisle; the Attorney-General, from Chester; Mr. Newdegate, from Warwickshire; Mr. Osborne, from Finsbury, signed by 9,000 persons; Mr. Moffatt, from Dartmouth and other places; Lord Palmerston, from Yarmouth and another place in the Isle of Wight, and from the University of Cambridge agreed to in the Senate House; Lord Morpeth, from Doncaster and several other places; the Chancellor of the Exchequer, from Halifax; Mr. Pattison, from places not heard; and Mr. O'Gorman Mahon, from Killaloe and another place in Ireland; Sir G. Grey, from places in Northumberland and Rutlandshire; Mr. C. Lewis, from Leicester; Mr. Horsman, from places in Cumberland and Westmoreland; Mr. E. J. Stanley, from Cheshire; Dr. Bowring, from Kingston and another place; Mr. C. Buller, from Liskeard and from Penzance; Lord H. Vane, from Stockton and other places; Mr. Kershaw, from Warrington and other places; Sir W. Somerville, from Canterbury; and by Mr. F. Baring, from Portsmouth. Numerous petitions against the bill were presented by Sir R. Inglis, from various places in England, Scotland and Ireland; Mr. Lockhart, four petitions from places in Scotland; Sir J. Y. Buller, from Exeter and other places; Mr. Law, from Great Stone, in Norfolk; Mr. Deedes, twenty petitions from parishes in Kent; Mr. C. W. Martin, from Newport; Mr. H. Drummond, from various places in Surrey; Lord Drumlanrig, from Dumfriesshire; Col. Rolleston and Mr. Bolling, from places not heard; Mr. Henley, from places in Oxfordshire and Berkshire; Mr. Plumptre, several from places in Kent; Mr. Mackinnon, from Lymington; Lord Ossulston, from places in Northumberland; Sir W. Jolliffe, from a place in Somersetshire; and by Lord H. Lennox, from Chichester.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL then moved that the bill be read a second time.

Mr. STAFFORD very briefly moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

When the House and the country were told that the present bill had actually swept away the last remnant of religious differences, and of the compulsory observance of certain forms, let him assume that it had passed, and that the Jews had taken advantage of its provisions to become members of that House. He had been exceedingly anxious to secure a seat at the present sitting of the House, and he had accordingly come down to prayers [much laughter]. Hon. members might laugh, but he did not mean to imply that he had been inattentive or unobservant of the form of prayer. In order to make good his claim to one particular seat, it was necessary for him to take one of the cards which lay on the table, whereon were inscribed two words, "at prayers," write his name under those words, and fix that card to his seat. Could it be expected that the name of Lionel Rothschild would ever be found to fill up that blank? That gentleman might very fairly and justly say that he came down to the House because he had been told by the Prime Minister that religion had nothing to do with politics, and therefore he might urge that politics ought not to be mixed up with religion. A Jew might, on such grounds as were advanced in favour of the present bill, argue that he was prepared to act on the maxim cited in its favour, Let every man worship God in private according to the form of his own conscience. It had been very fairly put by the hon. member for Oldham, that it was unfair to compel the Jew to observe the Christian Sabbath, when he so strictly kept that which was to him sacred in that sense. And yet how could the law enforcing the observance of the Christian Sabbath be maintained towards a Jew, if, in other respects, he was placed on a level with Christians? Could society be kept together if the House were to sanction and propagate the opinion that legislation proceeded only upon human authority? The forms enjoined by the Church must, in relation to such a system of legislation, prove a sorrowful subject of reflection to all who did not believe in a higher destiny than that marked out for her.

Lord BURLEIGH seconded the motion.

Mr. WOOD, on religious, and not on political grounds, considered it essential that the disgrace which had hitherto attached to our legislation and reflected discredit upon the Church, should be removed with all possible celerity. The honourable and learned gentleman then proceeded to analyze the adage which had been so much commented upon—that religion had nothing to do with politics; an adage which he maintained had been perverted by the opponents of the bill, its real meaning being that religious opinion should be no qualification or disqualification for any political situation. In that sense he was prepared to maintain it to the utmost. The true spirit of Christianity never sanctioned its mingling itself with political affairs. *In the earliest ages Christianity kept itself distinct from politics and the State. It was only coincident with the rise of the corruptions in the Church that the Church was first found in close union with the State.* Not only were no positive precepts to be found in Scripture in favour of such a union, but many existed against it. He rejoiced that this measure had been brought forward for removing another, though not the last, trace of what he conceived to be a most deeply seated political and religious error, and strengthening the line of demarcation which separated the "things that are Cæsar's from those that are God's." The opponents of the bill laid great stress upon the argument that Christianity was part and parcel of the law of the land, but he denied that this was the case in a sense which was in any way available to those who made use of it, and reviewed the various decisions on which the argument was based, to prove its utter unsoundness in the present instance. And as to the statute law, Christianity was made part and parcel of it in the time of Henry the Eighth, in a sense which would have made Sir R. H. Inglis himself a traitor and a felon. Neither the common nor the statute law had any bearing upon the present case, the Jews being now only excluded by the flag-end of an oath, the form of which was originally devised for a different purpose.

Mr. B. COCHRANE opposed the bill, regarding the apathy and indifference with which the question had been received throughout the country as anything but a matter of congratulation.

Mr. M. MILNES supported it, satisfied, from a consideration of recent events, that the passage of the measure would not be repugnant to the feelings or consciences of the people of England.

Lord MAHON stated briefly the reasons which had induced him to vote on a former occasion, and which would lead him now to vote against the bill. The Christian character of the constitution was an argument which could not be gainsayed. If they passed the present bill, there was no creed, or negation of creed, which could disqualify from sitting in Parliament. If they gave way at all in this respect, they must give way altogether; for if they ceased to require that the words, "On the true faith of a Christian," should form part of the oath to be taken by a member of Parliament, they would have no right to impose any religious obligation whatever upon parties seeking to enter the House, the consequence of which would be, that the doors of Parliament would be thrown open to Pagans, Infidels, and Mahometans.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH made a spirited speech in support of the bill; Mr. WALPOLE an elaborate one against it.

Mr. SHIEL, in an eloquent address, supported the bill :—

What was the aim, what the meaning, of this Hebrewphobia? [hear, hear, and a laugh.] Did they tremble for the Church? The Church might, indeed, have some reason for fear in our eight millions of Roman Catholics, our three millions of Methodists, our million and a half of new Catholics; she might have something to fear from sectarianism assailing her without, and from spurious Popery and mutiny within [hear, hear]; but from the neutral, apathetic, tranquil, unpresbyterian synagogue, be assured she had nothing to fear [hear, hear]. It was said that the introduction of Jews into the House would unchristianize the House. In his opinion, the Christianity of the House depended on the Christianity of the country [hear, hear]. The Christianity of the country—he meant by Christianity, the belief in Christ risen from the dead—was fixed in, and inseparably intertwined with, the affections of the people. He considered the Christianity of these islands to be as stable as the islands themselves [hear, hear]; and that so long as the constitution of England lasted, so long as Parliament itself endured, so long would the House—the burnished and unbroken mirror of the national mind—reflect the religious feeling of the nation [hear, hear]. Herein he viewed the true security of the Christian faith of England, and not in a formal test, at which, indeed, the honest man would pause, but which the sardonic sceptic would contemptuously overlook [hear, hear].

Mr. NEWDEGATE then spoke in opposition to the bill; but the fraction of his speech most worthy of notice was his assertion, that money had been plentifully distributed throughout the metropolis for the purpose of getting up petitions in favour of the bill, the scale of prices being—1s. 6d. for the first hundred signatures, 3s. for the next, and 6s. for every hundred that followed.

The debate was then adjourned, on the motion of Mr. CHARLES PEARSON.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The HOUSE OF LORDS sat for a short time on Thursday and Friday. In reply to the Earl of Hardwicke, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE said that the subject of national defences would be brought before their Lordships on an early day. Petitions were presented for and against the removal of Jewish disabilities, for superannuation to Poor Law officers, for abolition of transportation (from Van Diemen's Land) and for a measure to prevent denunciations by Catholic priests in Ireland.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—In reply to Mr. Hume, Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that he could not precisely say whether Monday the 14th or Friday the 18th would be the day for making the financial statement; but he would state the day as soon as it was made positive.

NATIONAL DEFENCES.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL signified that he would take the opportunity of making the financial statement also to make a statement of what had been done by former Governments and the present Government in the way of national defences.

SALE OF ENCUMBERED ESTATES IN IRELAND.—It is announced by the Premier, that in a few days a bill will be brought into the House of Lords on this subject.

Several NOTICES OF MOTIONS, on subjects not calling for specific detail, were given on Thursday. Sir WM. SOMERVILLE, on the 11th inst., moves for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of landlord and tenant in Ireland. Mr. WYLD, on an early day, to call attention to the infraction of treaties by the Dutch in the Indian Archipelago. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, on the 17th instant, for leave to introduce a bill against bribery at elections.

MAGISTRATE LAW.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL has introduced four important bills on this subject. Two of the bills codify the present magistrate law in cases, tried out of session, of indictable offences, and of summary conviction. A third regulates the holding of General and Petty Sessions; putting an end to the present system of holding court at public-houses, and authorizing the Secretary of State to concur in the framing of a uniform scale of sessions-fees throughout all England. A fourth codifies the present law to protect magistrates acting in their duty. The Attorney-General said he should allow a session to intervene before going into committee on these bills, in order that they might be fully examined. The bills, not being of any political importance, would be uninteresting to the House, and would not be carried without the assistance of members conversant with the subject.

OUR NAVAL AND MILITARY ESTABLISHMENTS.—On Monday, Mr. MONCKTON MILNES presented a petition from Pontefract praying for a reduction in our naval and military establishments [laughter].

DUBLIN CORPORATION AND LIVE CATTLE.—Mr. GROGAN placed in the Speaker's hands a motion for a return, which was about to be read, when Mr. J. REYNOLDS said he had something to say. The SPEAKER: Perhaps the hon. member had better hear the motion. It is for "A return of the number of live cattle" [great laughter]. Mr. J. REYNOLDS: Oh! I beg pardon, sir. I thought it had something to do with the corporation of the city of Dublin [shouts of laughter]. The return was then agreed to. Mr. GROGAN then moved for certain returns respecting the expenditure of the Dublin corporation. The SPEAKER: Does the hon. member oppose the return? If so it cannot now be moved. Mr. REYNOLDS: I do, sir. The motion was then postponed.

WINDOW-TAX.—Lord DUNCAN has given notice to move on an early day for a total repeal of the window-tax.

ANOTHER DEATH IN THE GURNEY FAMILY.—Our obituary conveys the mournful intelligence of the death of Mrs. Backhouse, the only daughter of the late Joseph John Gurney, Esq. She was spending the winter in Italy, for the benefit of her health, and was at Palermo, at the time of the outbreak mentioned under our foreign intelligence. She appears to have taken refuge on board of the English frigate, the "Bull Dog," and had gone on deck for the purpose of making an arrangement with the captain, in reference to her servant who was on board another vessel, when she was seized with a difficulty of breathing, and unusual prostration of strength. Medical attendance was at hand, and everything, which, under the circumstances, was possible was done to minister to her comfort, and to sustain her strength. She was conscious of the approach of death, and enjoyed to the last an undisturbed serenity of mind. Few individuals who have been called away from earth so early in life, leave behind them so large a circle of mourning and admiring friends.—*Norfolk News*.

SION CHAPEL, BRADFORD.—On Sunday last, Mr. Pottenger, having accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation from the Baptist church, Islington-green, London, preached his farewell sermon to a crowded and deeply-affected congregation, from Philippians iv. 1. Great numbers were present from other congregations, Mr. Pottenger's removal being felt as a public loss. His catholicity of spirit has endeared him to the members of other communions, and his firm advocacy of civil and religious freedom has secured him the respect and esteem of the best portion of the public. Mr. Pottenger leaves the church in a prosperous state, between two and three hundred members having been added to its communion during his pastorate. "The seven years spent amongst them," he remarked, "were seven of the happiest of his life, having been undisturbed by even a single misunderstanding in the church." On Monday evening, after the missionary prayer-meeting, an interesting meeting took place, at which a handsome purse, containing upwards of twenty sovereigns, was affectionately presented in the name of the teachers and friends of the school, by Mr. J. Cooke, one of the superintendents, and as affectionately acknowledged by the late pastor.—*From a Correspondent.*

THE PUBLIC MONEY.—A DISCLOSURE.—The London correspondent of the *Liverpool Albion*, under date of Saturday, (29th ult.) says—"To-night, a strange circumstance connected with Peel's last tenure of office is disclosed—scarcely less singular than the Elbing letter. The *Spectator*, stung by Sir William Molesworth's rebuke of its war panic, and the uses to which that rebuke has been converted, says, that so alarmed of invasion was Sir Robert Peel at the time of the Pritchard rumpus, that, on his own responsibility, he gave orders for the expenditure of £50,000 on Portsmouth; and this expenditure we are left to infer, put that important harbour in a condition to resist an attack. It's a very odd thing we never heard a word of this £50,000 business before. How was such an item smuggled through the estimates? What was Mr. Hume at, or his double, Williams, of Coventry, who was then in the house? Had Mr. John Parker, the then late Whig Secretary to the Admiralty, nothing to say to it? How came Lord Minto, the then late First Lord of the Admiralty, not to inquire about it in the Peers? or if the question, it being a money one, could not be agitated there, not to have prompted interrogation elsewhere? A pretty state our naval finance must be in, if the disposal of sums of £50,000 is revealed for the first time half-a-dozen years after their appropriation."

SIR ROBERT PEEL AND THE QUEEN.—The *Standard* professes to quote a statement made by Sir Robert Peel, at a late meeting of his friends at Drayton, to the effect that, during his interview with the Queen, on tendering his resignation, he made one request of her Majesty—and only one—"that he should never again be commanded to accept office as a Minister of the Crown." The Queen expressed surprise, as well she might, but permitted him to retire with the same kindness and grace with which she received him. We must say the account looks very apocryphal.

FAILURES, &c.—There have been further failures at Liverpool. Messrs. Jevons and Sons, iron merchants, have stopped, with liabilities amounting to about £120,000; but they have assets sufficient, it is said, to pay every creditor in full, and to have a handsome surplus in their favour. Messrs. Campbell and Co., in the West India and Mexican trade, have failed for about £50,000. From the Continent we learn that the firms of Alexander Baert, and of Boehmes, had resumed payment. M. Philippi, in the silk trade, is stated to have failed. There was a much better feeling entertained towards the future course of events, owing to the abundance of money. The Chambers at Carlsruhe had accepted the proposition of the Baden Government, to guarantee the payment of 3½ per cent. interest for fifteen years to all having claims on the manufactories of the firm of Von Haber. The *Liverpool Mercury* says:—"The improvement perceptible a few days ago continues and strengthens, notwithstanding the unexpected stoppage of payment by the long-established and important firm of Jevons, Sons, and Co.,—an event much regretted on all hands. Demand and prices, generally, are still more encouraging, and in *bona fide* transactions of business, bills are once more freely discounted."

THE RAILWAY OVER THE MENAI STRAITS.—The first of the eight great iron tubes required for carrying the Chester and Holyhead Railway over the Menai Strait, was tested on Saturday, at Chester, in the presence of Mr. Stephenson the projector, and a large number of engineers. All support being removed, the tube had a clear span of 400 feet, each end resting on a stone pier. The experiment was then made by running locomotives and heavily-laden ballast-waggons through; one train of 28 waggons filled with iron, weighing upwards of 300 tons. The deflection of the tube was not more than a few inches.

THE LATE ACCIDENT ON THE LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY.—The inquest in this case has been resumed and again adjourned, and the prisoners, Jones and Fleming, the engine driver and fireman, have been again examined before Mr. Elliott at the Lambeth police office. The evidence on both occasions has only tended to confirm the previous statements, that an optional power lay with the guard to use the detonating signals or not, if the night was not foggy. The state of the weather was, however, variously described by different witnesses. The result of the examination was the committal of both prisoners to take their trial at the next Kingston assizes for manslaughter.

CONSEQUENCE OF DRUNKENNESS.—KELVEDON, FEB. 8th.—A distressing occurrence took place yesterday in this place. As one of the labouring men was proceeding in the morning to his employment, he saw something unusual in the Blackwater river, which runs by the lower end of this place, which, upon investigation, turned out to be the body of a man, lying in the river, with his face downwards. The part was shallow; but, as the hands were plunged deep in the mud, no attempt appeared to have been made for a release. The wretched man was quite dead. When taken out, he proved to be one John Harris, a bricklayer. He was

seen the whole of Sunday in a state of intoxication, and it is supposed sprang off one of the bridges after dark. The Coroner's inquest was held on Tuesday (yesterday). Nothing was elicited throwing any light on the event, except the fact that he was seen drinking at various public houses during the day. Verdict,—"Found drowned."

THE THIRD WEEK'S PSALMODY EXERCISES went off admirably; leaving a broad and deep impression upon the mind of the metropolis, of the vast importance of the present movement. It is now evident that its power is but in the commencement of its development. Many who were indifferent are now amongst its ardent supporters; and others, who were prejudiced against it, now rank among its staunchest friends. A few light-headed people treat it with a flippancy most becoming—we do not say to the Psalmody movement, but to themselves. "Consistency has its value everywhere." But wise and good men are very fast gathering round it—men who see that God is working in it for the regeneration of His Church, and who devoutly wish to be co-workers together with Him. Were we to go into detail, it is more than probable we should find some things to object against; but, speaking generally, we do most honestly and heartily commend this much-needed and noble enterprise to the generous sympathies of the whole empire. The advertisement of to-day announces an aggregate meeting at Exeter-hall. We hope, and have no doubt, that the night will be highly satisfactory to the devoted man who is conducting these exercises, and to the multitudes who are in attendance upon them.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.—Advertisement.—The numerous inquiries from persons in all parts of the kingdom, as to where John Cassell's Coffees may be obtained has led John Cassell to announce, that he will shortly publish in the various newspapers the names and addresses of all the Agents appointed in each locality, and adopt other means, also, by which every Family may obtain the required information. The great difficulty John Cassell now experiences is, in supplying the very large and numerous orders which are daily pouring in upon him. To meet every exigency, however, powerful machinery has been put in requisition; and in the roasting, dressing, grinding, and making up, are all executed upon new and scientific principles, and with wonderful despatch. Each packet of Coffee forms a neat catty, and is lined with lead, so that the strength, richness, and aroma of the Coffee is effectually preserved. Persons desirous of obtaining this Agency should immediately apply to John Cassell, Abchurch-lane, London. In no case will a second Agent be appointed in any locality so as to interfere with the interests of the first.

GLEANINGS.

The *Western Star* says that a linen factory, upon an extensive scale, is being established at Westport, under the auspices of the Marquis of Sligo.

A Paris correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner* states that almost all those with whom he spoke of the invasion, burst out a laughing, and declared that if they were not assured of the contrary, they should have thought the talk of French invasion a joke, and rather a bitter one, in the state of their finances and their navy.

DISINTERESTED ADVICE.—The Editor of the *Chicago Democrat* gives the following good advice:—"Wives, love your husbands, and make them take a paper."

A Custom-house order has been published directing many improvements in the mode of examining the luggage of passengers arriving in England from the continent.—High time.

The *Dundee Advertiser* mentions that about a dozen magnificent wild swans, perfectly white, had been seen in the river between Newport and the Craig Pier. The statement is, of course, accompanied by the remark that these birds are only seen in such localities in inclement seasons.

Dr. Laing, of Thurso, has successfully applied chloroform in the paroxysms of lunacy.

The Oxford protest against the anti-Hampden agitation was signed by 371 members of Convocation, and upwards of 500 non-members.

Pigs in Halifax (says the *Liverpool Albion*), are now butchered under the influence of chloroform and die in bliss.—*Dulce et decorum est, &c.*

At a recent League Festival meeting in North Brookfield, U.S., Mr. Joseph Sturge was toasted as a true knight of the order of Bethlehem.

The municipality of Paris is about to build a splendid central market, which will cost 20,000,000f. (£800,000), and will require ten years for its erection.

Buffon (says the *Journal de Rheims*) gives a raven's life as 200 years. The other day a gentleman captured one; round its neck was a silver plate, with an inscription in English:—"This raven, caught by Capt. Duncan, of the Scotch Guards, in garrison at Rheims, was set at liberty, Jan. 7, 1643."

BIRTHS.

Jan. 19, at Rotherhithe (in the unconsciousness of mesmeric sleep, induced by Mr. Chandler), the wife of Mr. THOMAS MOSS, of a son.—*Times.*

Jan. 31, Mrs. W. BOUSFIELD, of Streatham-hill, of a daughter.

Jan. 31, at Chawson-house, Beds, the lady of CHARLES JAMES METCALFE, jun., Esq., of a son.

Feb. 3, at Stafford-house, the Duchess of SUTHERLAND, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 30, by Mr. E. C. Lewis, minister, in Lady Huntingdon's Chapel, Rochdale, Mr. SAMUEL BARNISH to ELLEN, eldest daughter of Mr. T. SLADEN.

Jan. 31, at Victoria-street Chapel, Derby, by Mr. John Corbin, minister, Mr. WILLIAM MARSDEN to Miss LOCKHART, all of Derby.

Feb. 1, by license, at Ebenezer Chapel, Kingsbridge, by Mr. W. A. Gillson, minister, of Bath, Mr. SAMUEL ELLWOOD, of Hackney, to REBECCA, daughter of the late Mr. S. BICKFORD, of Churchstow, Devonshire.

Feb. 1, at Queen-street Chapel, Huddersfield, by Mr. J. Hobson, minister, Mr. JONATHAN CUTTLE, of Kilnhouse-bank, Cartworth, to Miss BETSY ARMITAGE, of Holme-banks, near Holmfirth.

Feb. 3, at the Independent Chapel, Torquay, by Mr. J. Orange, minister, Mr. HENRY LEE, of Tor, to Miss ELIZA DAWES, of the same place.

Feb. 3, at St. Paul's, Balls-pond, Mr. R. ROYTON, of Walcot-square, Kennington, to MARY ANNE, daughter of Mr. J. WORTH, of Evington, Leicestershire.

Feb. 4, at the Independent Chapel, Hales Owen, by Mr. E. Reeve, minister, Mr. JOHN CRAWFORD to Miss SKIDMORE.

DEATHS.

Jan. 17, suddenly, at the age of 27, on board ship off Palermo, to which place she had gone for the benefit of her health, ANNA, the wife of John Church BACKHOUSE, of Blackwell, near Dartington, and only daughter of the late Joseph John Gurney, of Earlham, near Norwich.

Jan. 28, at Hoddesden, Herts, JAMES ROBERTS, in the 78th year of his age; for more than fifty years a consistent, humble Christian in connexion with the Independent church in that place. His end was peace.

Jan. 29, aged 85, Mr. JAMES DUTHOIT, of Hoxton, formerly of the Bank of England.

Jan. 29, at Hales Owen, in her 75th year, MARY, relict of the late Mr. J. HARRIS.

Jan. 29, in the 75th year of his age, and the 52nd of his ministry

Mr. FRANCIS DILL, senior pastor of the Presbyterian congregation of Clough, in the county Down.

Jan. 30, at Bridgend, in his 71st year, Mr. JOHN JAMES, for many years a faithful and successful minister of the Baptist church in the above place.

Jan. 30, in Portman-square, the Countess of BEVERLEY.

Jan. 31, aged 4 months and 3 weeks, SUSAN JANE, the infant daughter of John CONQUEST, Esq., 38, Woburn-square.

Feb. 2, aged 6 months, JAMES ALFRED, third son of Mr. Richard MULLENS, of No. 12, Myddelton-square, and 7, St. Mildred's-court, Poultry.

Feb. 2, WILLIAM ERNEST, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest BUNSEN, at the residence of his grandfather, Samuel Gurney, Esq., Upton, Essex.

Feb. 3, aged 71, JOSEPH TAYLOR, Esq., of Leeds. To the causes of religion and education he was (says the *Leeds Mercury*) a munificent benefactor. The Independent chapels in Holbeck and at Harrogate, and several Sunday-schools and day-schools, ranked him among their largest contributors both to their erection and support. His donation of £1,000 towards the liquidation of the debt on East-parade Chapel, three years since, originated the movement which led to the discharge of all the debts on the Independent chapels in this town, and in several other parts of Yorkshire. He also subscribed liberally to all our local charities.

Feb. 4, in the night, after a very short illness, and in the 4th year of her age, SARAH EMILY, the only child of Mr. Edwin JONES, of Leamington.

Feb. 4, suddenly, of apoplexy, at the house of his son-in-law, Mr. SAMUEL HAWES, in his 76th year.

Feb. 5, at his father's residence, after a lingering illness, in his 26th year, JOSEPH JOHN, eldest son of Joseph TYLER, of Stoke Newington.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Friday, February 4.

BANKRUPTCY ANNOUNCED.

BELLING, JOHN, Bodmin, watchmaker.

BANKRUPTS.

BAKER, WILLIAM WILCOX, late of Birmingham, engraver, February 11, March 11: solicitors, Mr. France, Godliman-street, London; and Messrs. Tyndall and Sons, Birmingham.

BENNETT, WILLIAM, Camberwell-green, cook, February 11, March 14: solicitors, Messrs. Ilme and Robinson, 32, Charterhouse-square.

BERTRAM, CHARLES, and PARKINSON, WILLIAM, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchants, February 15, March 21: solicitors, Mr. R. P. Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Messrs. Meggison and Co., 3, King's-road, Bedford-row, London.

BLACKFORD, ROBERT, Swindon, butcher, February 15, March 14: solicitor, Mr. Crowdy, Swindon.

BORKWOOD, THOMAS, 1, Shadwell-dock-street, ship chandler, February 11, March 17: solicitor, Mr. John Nixon, 13, Clifford's-inn Fleet-street.

BRIDGLAND, JAMES MOSES, 105, Wardour-street, Soho, pianoforte manufacturer, February 18, March 24: solicitor, Mr. T. Howard, 20, Great Marlborough-street.

BROAD, CHARLES, Liverpool, timber merchant, February 18, March 17: solicitors, Messrs. Hinton and Son, Bristol.

COLLARD, WILLIAM DUNMAN, 51, College-street, Chelsea, slater, February 15, March 14: solicitor, Mr. A. J. Lane, 4, Falcon-square.

COURTNEY, EDWARD, and ROBERTSON, WILLIAM, Liverpool, coal merchants, February 15, March 13: solicitors, Messrs. Keightley and Co., Chancery-lane, London; and Mr. J. Wood, Liverpool.

DICKENSON, ROBERT, Wolstanton, Staffordshire, grocer, February 12, March 11: solicitors, Mr. W. Harding, Burslem, Staffordshire; and Messrs. Spencer and Rawlings, Birmingham.

ELMES, HENRY JOHN, 32, Queen-street, Cheapside, and of 3, Staffordshire-place, Kent-road, bricklayer, February 10, March 15: solicitor, Mr. Williams, Bucklersbury.

FREEMAN, GEORGE, late of 41, St. Mary-at-Hill, Eastcheap, but now of Southampton-street, Camberwell, dealer in colonial produce, February 11, March 17: solicitor, Mr. Shaw, 47, Fish-street-hill.

GARRETT, JOHN, and PHILLIPS, FRANCIS HOLMES, Cambridge-street, Old St. Pancras-road, saw-mill proprietors, February 11, March 17: solicitor, Mr. Chilcote, 14, George-street, Mansion-house.

GODWIN, ENOCH, and LOWMAN, GEORGE, Bath, boot and shoe makers, February 17, March 16: solicitors, Messrs. Jones and Co., Crosby-square, London; and Mr. R. H. Hellings, Bath.

GRAY, WILLIAM SAMUEL, 2, High-street, Camden-town, auctioneer, February 12, March 25: solicitor, Mr. William Cox, Pinner's-hall, Old Broad-street.

HICKES, GEORGE, Huddersfield, commission merchant, February 15, March 10: solicitor, Mr. W. Thomas, 3, Ely-place, Holborn.

HUGHES, JOHN, Birkenhead, plasterer, February 15, March 7: solicitors, Messrs. Vincent, Temple, London; and Messrs. Atkinson, Liverpool.

LOCKETT, JAMES, BAKER, WILLIAM, and NICHOLSON, JOHN, Stone, Staffordshire, railway contractors, February 19, March 21: solicitor, Mr. Robinson, Ecclesall; and Mr. J. Smith, Birmingham.

LOCKWOOD, WILLIAM FREDERICK, late of Manchester, but now of Pendleton, teacher of music, February 16, March 8: solicitors, Mr. J. Abbott, 46, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London; and Messrs. E. and R. W. Bennett, Manchester.

MASON, CHARLES JAMES, Fenton, china manufacturer, February 19, March 14: solicitors, Messrs. W. and E. Clarke, Longton, Staffordshire; and Messrs. Mottram and Knowles, Birmingham.

MORSE, JOHN AUBREY, Bicester, currier, February 18, March 22: solicitor, Mr. Chambers, Cophall-buildings, Manchester.

ROSS, DAVID, Birkenhead, builder, February 18, March 9: solicitors, Mr. Cotterill, Throgmorton-street, London; and Messrs. Fletcher and Co., Liverpool.

SHARDLOW, GEORGE, and BRADSHAW, JAMES, Stone, shoe manufacturers, February 12, March 16: solicitors, Mr. Robinson, Ecclesall; and Mr. J. Smith, Birmingham.

STREET, CHARLES, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, builder, February 11, March 21: solicitor, Mr. Adams, George-street, Mansion-house.

TAYLOR, JOHN, Blackfriars-road, victualler, February 15, March 14: solicitors, Messrs. Selby and Mackeson, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

WALFORD, WILLIAM, Bridgewater, tailor, February 17, March 9: solicitors, Mr. Stogdon, Exeter; and Messrs. Holme and Co., New-inn, London.

WALKER, JOSEPH, Huddersfield, shawl manufacturer, February 19, March 11: solicitors, Messrs. Jacques and Co., Ely-place, London; and Messrs. Battye and Clay, Huddersfield.

WARREN, CHARLES, Exeter, wine merchant, February 15, March 9: solicitors, Mr. J. Stogdon, Exeter; and Messrs. Kedell and Co., 31, Lime-street, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CAMPBELL, ARCHIBALD DOUGLAS, Glasgow, merchant, February 9, March 1.

GRASSICK, PATRICK, Glenlogie, farmer, February 8 and 29.

INGLIS, MALCOLM, Edinburgh, stock broker, February 9, March 2.

MARTIN, BRYCE, Meikle Kilecattan, farmer, February 9, March 1.

M'GILL, JAMES, Glasgow, provision merchant, February 10, March 2.

REID, JAMES, Anderston, bricklayer, February 10, March 2.

DIVIDENDS.

Richard Coleman, and Edwin Robert Hall, Colchester, iron founders, second div. of 1s. 6d.; at 1, Guildhall-chambers, February 2, and two following Wednesdays—John Peers Bateman, 8, Earl's-court-terrace, Old Brompton, bookkeeper, first div. of 5s. 6d.; at 12, Birch-lane, February 7, and two following Mondays—George Thomas Day, Commercial-road, Pimlico, civil engineer, first div. of 1s. 5d.; at 12, Birch-lane, February 7, and two following Mondays—Thomas Williams Home, 20, Pelham-street, Brompton, hotel keeper, first div. of 2s. 6d.; at 12, Birch-lane, February 7, and two following Mondays—James Bishop, Little Russell-street, Bloomsbury, wheelwright, first div. of 5s.; at 12, Birch-lane, February 7, and two following Mondays—Francis Rolfe, Great Marlborough-street, tailor, second div. of 11d.; at 12, Birch-lane, February 7, and two following Mondays—William Hammer and John Hammer, Whitechapel-road, coach-makers, first div. of 1s. 9d.; at 12, Birch-lane, February 7, and two following Mondays—Thomas Desman, 85, Quadrant, Regent-street, and of 7, Buckingham-street, Fitzroy-square, stone mason, div. of 1s.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street, any Friday—Samuel Yorke, Camberbridge, upholsterer, div. of 5d.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street, any Friday—Edmund Snowden, Alton, Southampton, painter, div. of 6d.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street, any Friday—John Parrish, 4, High-street, Newington, div. of 8s. 6d.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street, any Friday—John George Ufford, Highbury Brewery, Islington, common brewer, div. of 1s. 6d.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street, any Friday—Joseph Thomas Townsend, High-street, Islington, carpet dealer, div. of 1s. 8d.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street, any Friday—William Craft

100

ORIGINAL

ASHBY'S AUSTRALIAN PALE ALE.

CHIDELL and JONES, Wine and Spirit Merchants, 40, LIME-STREET, CITY, and Agents, by special appointment, for the sale of **ASHBY'S CELEBRATED AUSTRALIAN PALE ALE**, beg to inform their Friends and the Public, that this Season's Brewing is in splendid condition, in Bottle, and also in 9 and 18 gallon casks.

N.B. Strongly recommended by the Faculty.

DEANE'S CHAIN SPRING CANDLE LAMP.

THE TASTE FOR CLEANLINESS which characterises the domestic economy of the English people has made the **CANDLE LAMP** an universal favourite. Perceiving this, **GEORGE and JOHN DEANE** have devoted their attention to improving the article; and the result is their **CHAIN SPRING CANDLE LAMP**. The peculiar contrivance by which it is distinguished cannot be described in a brief advertisement; but it really perfects the invention, and may be seen in the Lamp Department of **George and John Deane's** Warehouse, Show-rooms and Manufactories. Old Candle Lamps fitted on the New Principle, at a very trifling cost. Lamps, Candles, Oils, and Camphine (at 4s. per gallon), delivered by Deane's carts in all parts of the Metropolis, and its suburbs, daily. **GEORGE and JOHN DEANE**, Opening to the Monument, 46, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON-BRIDGE.

THE PLATED SEAMLESS TEA-POTS cannot be distinguished from silver, or leak, or lose their shape; while from the peculiarity of the process of making (just patented), their prices are about one-half of any other sort. Portland, 23s.; Oval plain, 23s.; Round plain, 25s.; Round engraved, 30s.; Antique (superior even to silver itself in delicacy of finish), 40s.; in Britannia metal, Oval, 7s. 6d.; Round, 8s. 6d.; Portland, 7s. 6d. each.—Detailed catalogues, with engravings, as well as of every ironmongery article, sent (per post) free.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE IRONS.—The **LARGEST ASSORTMENT** of STOVES, KITCHEN RANGES, and FENDERS, as well as General Ironmongery, in the world, is now on sale at **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S** (late **RIPPOON and BURTON'S**) extensive warehouses. Bright steel fenders, to 4 feet, from 30s. each; ditto ditto, with or-molu ornaments, from 60s.; rich bronzed scroll ditto, with steel bar, 10s. 6d.; iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, and fitted with standards, 3 feet, 9s.; 4 feet, 11s.; wrought iron kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; bright register stoves, with bronzed ornaments, and two sets of bars, from 80s.; ditto ditto, with or-molu ornaments, from £6 6s.; black dining-room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s.; 3 feet, 27s.; bed-room register stoves, 2 feet, 16s.; 3 feet, 24s. The new economical thermic stove, with fender and radiating hearth-plate; fire-irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest pattern, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. A variety of fire-irons, with or-molu and richly cut heads, at proportionate prices. Any article in the furnishing ironmongery, 30 per cent. under any other house. The money returned for every article not approved of. Detailed catalogues with engravings, sent (per post) free.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late **RIPPOON and BURTON'S**) stock of general furnishing ironmongery is literally the largest in the world, and as no language can be employed to give a correct idea of its variety and extent, purchasers are invited to call and inspect it—39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street). Established in Wells-street, 1820.

THE QUEEN'S BISCUITS.—**J. D. CARR and Co.**, of Carlisle, and 111, Strand, London, Steam Biscuit Manufacturers to the Queen and Royal Family, by special appointment. The great celebrity which these biscuits have now for many years attained in the north has induced the proprietors to establish an extensive depot at 111, Strand, to afford the public a better opportunity of obtaining at all times a perfectly fresh supply, and at a considerable less price than is usually charged, and of a much superior quality. A very great and most important advantage is gained, and a material saving is effected in the manufacture of these biscuits, by the agency of steam power, which not only removes a decided objection of employing the hands in mixing and kneading the ingredients, but also prepares them in a more efficient and wholesome manner. **J. D. C. and Co.** respectfully solicit the attention of the public to their celebrated genuine **PREPARED BISCUIT POWDER**, which has received the most gratifying testimonials as a valuable article of consumption. Being light and nutritious, it is peculiarly adapted for children's food, and also for domestic purposes. Sold in packets, 6d. and 1s. each. **OBSERVE THE ADDRESS, 111, STRAND, LONDON**, nearly opposite Exeter-hall.

PLUMBE'S GENUINE ARROWROOT, from the SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.—It is hoped that families will use this Arrowroot in preference to any other, as the demand for it in this country will promote the commercial interests of the natives of these interesting islands. Sold retail, by Snow, Paternoster-row; Ford, Islington; Mawby, Aldgate; Medes, Camberwell; Burnside, Blackheath; Morgan, Sloane-street; Poulton, Hackney; Hooper, King William-street; Abbie, Gracechurch-street; Starling, Islington; Albright, Newington-causeway; Taylor, 1, York-place, Denmark-hill, Camberwell, and others. Parties wishing to sell this article, may obtain particulars of **A. S. Plumbe**, 3, Alie-place, Great Alie-street, Whitechapel.—Agents continue to be appointed. An excellent remedy for the Influenza.

PATENT FOR ROASTING COFFEE.—Extract from the *Patent Journal* of the 11th of December, 1847:—"Patents recently granted.—To **William Dakin**, of No. 1, Saint Paul's-churchyard, 'for improvements in cleaning and roasting coffee, in the apparatus and machinery to be used therein, and also in the apparatus for making infusions and decoctions of coffee.'"

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

Her Majesty having been graciously pleased to grant her Royal Letters Patent to **WILLIAM DAKIN**, of No. 1, Saint Paul's-churchyard, London, under the above title, and for the purposes declared, **DAKIN and COMPANY** take this early opportunity of informing the public, that the extensive engines and machinery for carrying out the Patent are being got ready with every possible despatch, and, on completion, the firm will be in a position to bring this extraordinary and highly-important invention prominently before the public—an invention, which by the adoption of a simple scientific principle, altogether supercedes every other plan introduced, developing in coffee a richness, purity, and delicacy of flavour, not hitherto considered as belonging to this berry.

SASSAFRAS CHOCOLATE for INVALIDS.—**DR. DE LA MOTTE'S** Nutritive, Health-Restoring AROMATIC CHOCOLATE, prepared from the Nuts of the Sassafras Tree, and sold by the Patentee, 12, Southampton-street, Strand, and also by Chemists. This Chocolate contains the peculiar virtues of the Sassafras Root, which has long been held in great estimation for its purifying and alterative properties. The aromatic quality (which is very grateful to the stomach) most invalids require for breakfast and evening repast, to promote digestion; and to a deficiency of this property in the customary breakfast and supper, may in a great measure be attributed the frequency of cases of indigestion generally termed bilious. It has been found highly beneficial in correcting the state of the digestive organs, &c., from whence arise many diseases, such as eruptions of the skin, gout, rheumatism, and scrofula. In cases of debility of the stomach, and a sluggish state of the liver and intestines, occasioning flatulence, costiveness, &c., and in spasmodic asthma it is much recommended.

PROFITABLE AGENCY.—IMPORTANT TO TRADESMEN. **THE AGENCY OF THE BRITISH HONG KONG TEA COMPANY.**—There is scarcely any Agency more advantageous to respectable Tradesmen, than that of this Company's Teas and Coffees. For, first, the quality or the goods is such as invariably to secure a good demand; hence a respectable income. Secondly, the general business of the Agent is sure to be beneficially influenced, as the Company advertise their Agents, as well as furnish them with a plentiful supply of Bills and Circulars, upon which the Agent's name is printed, and by the circulation of which the Agent's connexion will be greatly extended. All applications for Agencies to be made direct to the Company's Establishment, Budge-row, London.

JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEES OF SURPASSING STRENGTH AND RICHNESS OF FLAVOUR.

JOHN CASSELL, of Abchurch-lane, London, is now making the most extensive arrangements for the purpose of supplying the people of England, Scotland, and Ireland, with Coffees of the world's finest growths, upon terms ordinarily paid for very inferior descriptions. He is appointing Agents in every town and locality throughout the kingdom, who will be constantly supplied with fresh roasted and fresh ground Coffee, packed in lead upon scientific principles, in quantities of from two ounces to one pound, so as to preserve effectually its strength and aroma. A list of the Agents will shortly be published.

The difficulty of obtaining good Coffee has long been a source of complaint. While our continental neighbours have been well supplied with this article, the people of England have been badly supplied. **JOHN CASSELL** has determined that this state of things shall exist no longer: the Englishman and his family may henceforth be on a par with the Frenchman, and be able to obtain—if he only applies to the Agent of **JOHN CASSELL**—Coffees of surpassing richness, strength, and flavour. The following are the prices at which these Coffees are supplied:—

JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEE , No. 1, an excellent article	1s. 4d.
JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEE , No. 2, cannot fail to give satisfaction, being a combination of the choicest growths of Jamaica	1s. 8d.
JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEE , No. 3; to every connoisseur in Coffee, this will prove a treat, combining the finest mountain growths of Jamaica and Turkey	2s. 6d.

OBSERVE.—Every packet of **JOHN CASSELL'S** Coffee bears his signature, without which none is genuine.

TWO THOUSAND AGENTS WANTED FOR THE SALE OF JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEES.

These Coffees, both on account of quality and price, are certain to command a very large sale. Besides this, measures will be taken to make every family throughout the kingdom, as far as possible, acquainted with the fact, that they have the opportunity of purchasing articles of the qualities above stated, from an Agent in their own locality. It may be safely asserted, therefore, that few Agencies are more desirable, to persons who wish to make a valuable addition to their business, than the sale of **JOHN CASSELL'S** Coffees. It will be seen that, independent of the Commission allowed, the general trade of the Agent is certain to be benefited by the number of new customers who will be attracted to his place of business, and in consequence of his name being kept before the public, by means of advertisements, &c., as the Agent for **JOHN CASSELL'S** Coffee.

Private individuals having a respectable connexion, will do well to obtain this Agency, as there is no trouble attending it, the Coffees being weighed and packed in lead, ready for delivery. Applications for terms, &c., must be made direct to **JOHN CASSELL**, Abchurch-lane, London.

NO. 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY.—Tea, Coffee, Sago, Tapioca, Rice, Arrowroot, &c., are in many instances below the cost of importation, affording families and large consumers an excellent opportunity to get in their Stock. The strong useful Congou at 3s. 2d. per lb., and the Fine Hyson at 3s. 8d. per lb., will be found, from their excellent quality, well worth attention.

BLACK TEA.		Soluble Cocoa, in ½ lb packets	
	Per lb.		0 6d.
Good sound Congou	2 10 to 3 0	GREEN TEA.	
Strong useful Congou	3 2		Per lb.
Fine Congou Pekoe	3 6		s. d. s. d.
Souchong flavour	3 6	Good Twankay to	
Finest Congou imported	4 0	Hyson kind	3 0 to 3 4
		Genuine Hyson	3 6
COFFEE.		Fine Hyson, recommended	3 8
Common Coffee	0 8 to 0 10	Very fine Hyson	4 8
Finest Ceylon	0 11	Superfine Hyson	5 0
Plantation ditto	1 1 to 1 3	Strong Gunpowder	4 0 to 4
Finest Costa Rica	1 4	Fine Gunpowder	4 8
Choice old Mocha; this is the finest imported	1 6	SPICES.	
MISCELLANEOUS.		Finest Mace	6 9
Finest Pearl Sago	0 2 ½ per lb	Second quality, good	5 6 to 6
Tapioca, good	0 5	Batavia Nutmegs	5 4
Best Tapioca	0 6	Ditto, finest picked	6 9
Finest West India Arrowroot	0 10	Amboyana Cloves	1 4 to 2
Best Mustard, in tin foil	1 4	Bencoolen, finest	2 9
Best Carolina Rice	0 4	Finest Cinnamon	4 9
Isinglass, best picked	1 6	Second quality	4 6
Best Brown Candy	0 10 ½	Genuine mixed spice	3 6
New Mustard	0 5 ½	Black heavy pepper	0 11

The system of business adopted at this establishment obviates a difficulty to which families have long been subject, that of not being able to obtain raw and refined sugar at the same house. Our supplying these important articles and colonial produce, combined with the excellence of our teas and coffees, has obtained for us a large and increasing trade, a satisfactory proof that we were right in supposing that there was ample room for an establishment based on this principle,—not of selling a few, but every article at a small per centage on import prices. Terms, cash on delivery of goods. Orders from the country, if accompanied with a reference in London, a remittance on receipt of the goods will be sufficient. The carts and vans of this establishment punctually deliver all goods as under, the orders for which families are respectfully requested to send at least one day previous to delivery. To the west-end, Islington, the Borough, the whole of London, and the city daily.

To Bayswater and Kensington every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. To Chelsea and Brompton every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. To the east-end of London, Wapping, Shadwell, Poplar, Blackwall, Bow, and Stratford, every Thursday. To the suburbs one day each week.

PHILLIPS and Co., 8, King William-street, City, corner of Abchurch-lane, facing the London Life Association.

COMFORT FOR TENDER FEET, AND A CERTAIN CURE FOR CORNS AND BUNIONS.

PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND.

Patronised by the Royal Family, Nobility, &c. **PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND**, which gives Relief on the First Application. **Paul's Every Man's Friend** (Corn Plaster) is generally admitted to be the best emollient application for Corns and Bunions, and is worthy of a trial on the part of those who are afflicted with such unpleasant companions.

Testimonials have been received from upwards of one hundred Physicians and Surgeons of the greatest eminence, as well as from many Officers of both Army and Navy, and nearly one thousand private letters from the gentry in town and country, speaking in high terms of this valuable remedy.

Prepared by **John Fox**, in boxes, at 1s. 1½d., or three small boxes in one for 2s. 9d.; and to be had, with full directions for use, of **C. King**, 34, Napier-street, Hoxton New Town, London, and all wholesale and retail Medicine Vendors in town and country. The genuine has the name of "John Fox" on the Government stamp. A 2s. 9d. box cures the most obdurate corns.

Ask for "Paul's Every Man's Friend." Sold also by Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Edwards, 67, St. Paul's-churchyard; Butler and Harding, 4, Cheapside; Sutton, Bow-churchyard; Johnston, 68, Cornhill; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Willoughby and Co., 61, Bishopsgate-street Without; Owen, 52, Marchmont-street, Burton-crescent; Eade, 39, Goswell-street; Prout, 229, Strand; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; and retail by all respectable Medicine Vendors in every town in England.

NERVO-PATHIC and MEDICAL GALVANIC INSTITUTION.

46, Strand, conducted by **MR. DALBY**, under the most distinguished patronage, for the Cure of all kinds of Nervous Complaints, including Deafness, Paralysis, Indigestion, &c., by means of Galvanism and the Nervo-pathic treatment, now so extensively employed by **MR. DALBY**.

J. DALBY, 46, STRAND, Inventor of **DALBY'S CELEBRATED NERVOUS CHLOROFORM BALM**.

TESTIMONIAL TO WILLIAM LOVETT.

A PUBLIC TEA PARTY and SOIREE for the purpose of presenting the **TESTIMONIAL** (which has been raised by subscription) to **WILLIAM LOVETT**, will take place in the **NATIONAL HALL**, 242, High Holborn, on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1848**. **J. HUMFREYS PARRY** Esq., in the Chair.

The following gentlemen have already intimated their intention of being present:—**Dr. Bowring**, M.P.; **George Thompson**, Esq., M.P.; **W. H. Ashurst**, Esq.; **Dr. Epps**; **F. Rowton**, Esq.; **Mr. Thomas Beggs**; and **Mr. Henry Vincent**.

The proceedings of the evening will be interspersed with a variety of appropriate singing by **Miss Thornton**, **Mrs. W. Dixon**, **Mr. Edney**, and **Mr. N. J. Sporie**.

Tea on table at Six o'clock precisely. Tickets for Tea and Dessert of Fruit, &c., 1s. 6d. Double tickets (admitting a lady and Gentleman or two Ladies) 2s. 6d.; to be had of **Mr. C. Elt**, 18, High-street, Islington; **Mr. I. A. Thomas**, High-street, Kingsland; **Mr. George Cox**, 128, High Holborn; **Mr. John Cleave**, 2, Shoe-lane, Fleet-street; and at the **National-hall**.

I. F. MOLLETT, Hon. Sec.

CROMWELL.—It is hereby proposed to raise, by Public Subscription, a **MONUMENT** to **OLIVER CROMWELL**. Parties willing to co-operate, either by subscription, or otherwise, are invited to send their Names, immediately, to "The Secretaries for the Cromwell Monument," at the Office of this Paper. February 8th, 1848.

WANTED.—Nos. 12 and 23, First Series of the "NONCONFORMIST" Newspaper; either to Purchase, or in Exchange for any two of the following numbers: 131, 139; 142, 143; 161, 162; 164, 166; 168, 224, all First Series. Address to **R. N.**, 10, Burlington-buildings, Redland, Bristol.

TO MILLERS AND MERCHANTS.

A YOUNG MAN, respectfully connected, is in WANT of a SITUATION where he can make himself generally useful. He is willing to take charge of the books, and would take an active part of the business in a Steam-mill, Water-mill, or Corn Trade. Applications to **A. B.**, at 119, Upper-street, Islington, London; or, Post-office, Witham.

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THE "NONCONFORMIST" NEWSPAPER.

AT a MEETING of GENTLEMEN held at the KING'S HEAD TAVERN, POULTNEY, on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd, 1848; the Rev. JOHN BURNET in the Chair:

Moved by Colonel Thompson, M.P.; seconded by Dr. Thomas Price; and

Resolved—That in the opinion of this Meeting the earnest friends of political progress and ecclesiastical freedom are deeply indebted to the *Nonconformist* newspaper, for its able, fearless, and effective advocacy of their principles since the period of its establishment; that in the present position of public affairs, especially in relation to politico-religious establishments, it is highly desirable that means be adopted for more widely extending its influence; and that the announcement of its intended enlargement presents a fitting opportunity for a vigorous effort on the part of its supporters to procure for it a greatly increased circulation.

Moved by Charles Gilpin, Esq.; seconded by Thomas Box, Esq.; and

Resolved—That this Meeting do resolve itself into a Committee, with a view to the adoption of suitable measures for carrying into effect the foregoing resolution; and that the co-operation of others throughout the country, favourable to the object, be invited.

Moved by the Rev. T. E. Thoresby; seconded by Mr. T. Stephings; and

Resolved—That an Appeal to the Public, embodying the views of this Meeting, be prepared, to be signed by the Chairman; and that it be forthwith extensively circulated.

(Signed) JOHN BURNET, Chairman.

AN APPEAL from the COMMITTEE for EXTENDING the CIRCULATION of the "NONCONFORMIST" NEWSPAPER:—

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,

The formation of a Public Committee to extend the circulation of a Newspaper, is a step which, under ordinary circumstances, would require some explanation, if not apology. We are, however, assured that as no one will suspect us of being influenced by other than public considerations, so few will deny that there are important reasons which justify, if not demand, this species of interference.

The question submitted to you, is not whether the *Nonconformist* shall continue to exist, for it has already established for itself a position of permanent stability. Neither are we striving to supply a defect, or to strengthen failing powers; and still less do we base our appeal on mere pecuniary grounds, or even on feelings of personal regard. We address you simply as holders with cherished affection principles which you believe to be essential to right government, and which, as earnest men, you are anxious to commend to the judgment of others.

Far be it from us to depreciate other Journals devoted to the same cause. We accord to them all the praise their services merit; but, at the same time, we submit to you that the *Nonconformist* is peculiarly deserving of your attachment and support.

The principles of which it has been the lucid exponent and the unswerving advocate, are such as commend themselves to every friend of political progress and of religious equality. Embracing in its powerful advocacy the whole extent of popular rights, it has aimed at the elevation of the middle and working classes to the possession of political power; and insisting, with inflexible purpose, on the observance of justice as the only rule of legislative action, it has demonstrated the oneness of the great principle of civil and religious freedom.

Upon the great body of Nonconformists, it has a claim such as no other organ of public opinion can present. Demanding for all men unconditional religious equality, and asserting the spirituality of genuine Christianity, as well as the superiority of voluntary effort over the corrupt and oppressive machinery of a State-church, it has unceasingly laboured to liberate religion from the thralldom by which it has so long been enfeebled and degraded. During a period of seven years, and struggling with no common difficulties it has brought to the application of this, its chosen theme, a strength and integrity of purpose—a clearness and breadth of argument—and a vigour and richness of style, which have caused the principles of Nonconformity to be respected in quarters where they had previously been but impatiently tolerated, and to be loved and acted on by those who, while holding them, were yet insensible to their worth.

It is very possible that, in pursuing the course which his judgment has approved, the Editor of the *Nonconformist* has sometimes expressed opinions in which all its readers do not fully concur; but, since few minds think alike on all subjects, this can excite no surprise. Yours is not a work to be performed in a slavish spirit; and while claiming the fullest liberty of thought for yourselves, it becomes you to exercise a generous forbearance towards your organs. In the present instance, you have ample proof, that whatever sentiments have been advanced, they have been the utterance of a mind conscious of rectitude, and nerved by a heroic love for truth.

Nor has the *Nonconformist* to rely for success on promises, however large, or designs, however excellent. It is a tried servant, having not only fulfilled every expectation originally held out, but acquired a moral power surpassing in degree the most sanguine hopes of its supporters. It would evidence dulness not to perceive, and disingenuousness not to acknowledge, that Dissenters have been led to take up their present advanced position under the influence of its faithful counsels and heart-stirring appeals. By its untiring energy it has succeeded in creating, if not a new party, yet a healthy tone of public feeling, which constitutes a new era in the history of Nonconformity, and which alone would secure for it immortal honour.

The present position of our national affairs, and the state of the public mind in relation to them, renders the more general support of such a Journal a matter of the most pressing necessity. Popular principles are rapidly advancing, and they require a high order of advocacy to ensure their practical acknowledgment by the Legislature. The subject of politico-religious establishments is becoming a topic of universal interest, and is fast ripening for legislative discussion. The recent measures, and still more the avowed intentions, of our statesmen, as well as the light thrown upon the enslaved condition of the State-Church by the scenes now enacting within its pale, announce that the time has come for earnest action, and hold out a prospect neither faint nor distant of ultimate success.

Whatever other agency may be employed in the work, be assured that it is on the Public Press we must mainly rely, as the most potent instrument in effecting this mighty, but peaceful, revolution. And, Fellow-Countrymen, to what quarter can you so confidently look for help in the coming struggle, as to that from which you have already received so much? Gratitude alone should prompt you to activity for increasing the support of such a Journal, as the best and most graceful acknowledgment of the rare devotedness of its gifted Editor to the cause of universal freedom and humanity. How strong, then, is the incentive when, added to this, you know that by bringing a larger portion of the public mind under its instruction you will advance the noblest principles, and pave the way for their speedier triumph.

The proposed enlargement of the *Nonconformist* affords a fitting opportunity for extending its circulation to an extent commensurate with its claims. With the additional attractions and advantages, such as augmented space and multiplied resources will afford, it will require but a wider circle of readers to leave it without a rival among the Weekly Press. Urged by a strong sense of public duty to make this appeal on its behalf, we beg, with as much of earnestness as is consistent with courtesy, to invite that co-operation and individual exertion which are requisite to give it practical effect. Remember, the cause is your own for which we plead, and should you withhold a generous response, you must be sharers with us in the disappointment and the shame.

(Signed) On behalf of the Committee, JOHN BURNET, Chairman.

Correspondence (with suggestions) is invited, addressed to the Rev. JOHN BURNET, 4, Horse-shoe Court, Ludgate-hill, London. Money orders in aid of a fund to meet expenses, must be addressed to STAFFORD ALLEN, Esq., the Treasurer, at the same place. Copies of the "Appeal," will be supplied on application as above.

The First Number of

"JUSTICE,"

A New Weekly Newspaper, will be published on SATURDAY, the 26th of February.

THIS JOURNAL is established to collect and diffuse information on the CURRENCY with a view to place our Monetary System on a firmer and more equitable basis. The great Political Questions of the day will be discussed on the principle—The right of the individual, not the right of the many, nor the favour of the few. An ample selection of the News of the week, Reports of the Markets, Prices Current, &c., will be given. The "JUSTICE" will comprise SIXTEEN PAGES LARGE FOLIO SIZE, and will be published regularly every SATURDAY, by MIALI and COCKSHAW, at 4, Horse Shoe Court, Ludgate-hill, where all Communications to the Editor should be addressed. Price 6d., 6s. 6d. per quarter, or 26s. per annum (post-office orders to be made payable to the Publishers). Advertisements for the First Number, which will comprise a very large impression, should be sent not later than WEDNESDAY, the 23d. An Edition will be published in time for the Morning Mails. Order of any Newsmen.

A Catechism on Capital, Currency, Value, Standard of Value, Appreciation, Depreciation, and Banking, &c., will be commenced in the First Number.

PSALMODY.—AGGREGATE MEETING at EXETER-HALL, MONDAY Evening, FEBRUARY 28th. TICKETS, One Shilling each, will be ready for delivery next Monday (the 11th), and may be obtained at the Meetings of the Classes (at the several Chapels) during the week. The BOOK used in the Classes, and a TICKET, are BOTH necessary to gain admission. Feb. 8th, 1848. T. E. THORESBY, J. S. EASTMEAD, Secretaries.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

PROSPECTIVE DEFICIENCY OF THE SOCIETY'S INCOME FOR THE PRESENT YEAR.

AT a SPECIAL MEETING of the TOWN and COUNTRY DIRECTORS, held at the MISSION-HOUSE, on the 16th of November ult., the following brief statement was presented:—

"The Directors having carefully examined the present state and prospects of the Society's Finances, are of opinion that there will be a deficiency in the income of the year, as compared with the expenditure, to the extent of £12,500; arising as follows:—

Deficiency in Legacies (as compared with the amount of last year)	£4,000 0 0
Estimated deficiency in Ordinary Contributions	4,000 0 0
Increased Expenditure in the outfit of the Ship, and orders in advance for the South Sea Missionaries ..	4,500 0 0
Total	£12,500 0 0

The Board was numerously attended by Representatives from several different Auxiliaries in different counties; and, after an extended conference, it was

Resolved unanimously, "That a statement of the present and prospective financial position of the society be made, *instantly*, to its attached and generous friends in London and throughout the country, accompanied by an urgent appeal for special contributions to meet its present exigency; the same to be realized as speedily as practicable."

It was deemed by the meeting most desirable to restrict the application for assistance to individuals, from an apprehension that a more general and public appeal to congregations would injuriously affect the ordinary contributions of its constituents—an evil most carefully to be avoided.

Although the present effort is only designed to meet the exigency of the year, the Directors are still more anxious, as far as may be possible, permanently to equalize the ordinary income and outlay of the Society. This can only be accomplished by degrees; it has, however, already been realized in part; and they cherish the earnest hope, that by perseverance in a watchful system of economy on the one hand, and on the other, by improving the system of missionary organization, and thus augmenting the annual resources, the necessity of special appeals, like the present, may hereafter be prevented.

While the Directors feel it incumbent to make this explicit statement of the present and prospective position of the Society's Finances, and to devise the best measures to prevent the evil they foresee at the close of the Missionary Year; and while they are fully sensible of the commercial difficulties felt by the friends of the Society, in common with the Members of kindred Institutions, they cannot yield to discouragement, much less to alarm. The devoted Agents of the Society are labouring with the most decisive proofs of the Divine favour in every department of Missionary service. To recall any of these faithful men, and to relinquish fields white unto the harvest, would involve criminality which the Directors would not dare to incur, and which the Churches of Britain would not fail to condemn. They have administered the funds committed to their stewardship with conscientious integrity, and according to their best judgment; they confidently rely upon the steady attachment and liberality of the Society's friends to meet the present emergency; and they humbly look to the God of Missions, whose cause they aim to serve, to sanction this appeal and crown it with success.

Signed by order of the Board of Directors,

CULLING EARDLEY EARDLEY, Treasurer.

ARTHUR TIDMAN, Secretary.

JOSEPH JOHN FREEMAN, Secretary.

Mission-house, Blomfield-street, London,

January 25th, 1848.

The application has hitherto been almost restricted to the Friends of the Society in London and its vicinity, and the following list of donations exhibits the gratifying results:—

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With the promise of an additional £100, if there are nine other contributions of an equal sum.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the FALCON-SQUARE CHAPEL AUXILIARY of the above Society will be held at FALCON-SQUARE CHAPEL, on MONDAY Evening, 14th FEBRUARY, 1848. The Rev. Dr. LEGGE, of Hong Kong; the Rev. THOMAS BOAZ, Pastor of Union Chapel, Calcutta; the Rev. A. TIDMAN and J. J. FREEMAN, Secretaries of the Parent Society; and TWO CHINESE CONVERTS, are expected to address the meeting. The Rev. JAMES BENNETT, D.D., will take the Chair at half-past Six o'clock precisely.

Dr. Legge and the native Chinese embark for China on the 21st instant.

A collection will be made on behalf of the Funds of the Society.

ORPHAN WORKING-SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL, For the reception of Children of both Sexes, of all Denominations, and from every part of the Kingdom.

THE FESTIVAL of this CHARITY will take place at the LONDON TAVERN, on the 11th of MAY, to commemorate the Ninetieth Anniversary of the Charity.

LORD ROBERT GROSVENOR, M.P., will preside.

The HALF-YEARLY ELECTION of CHILDREN will take place on WEDNESDAY, the 26th of APRIL. Persons desirous of bringing forward Candidates, must do so before the end of the present month. Forms of petition, &c., may be had at the Office daily between 10 and 4.

Office, 19, Gresham-street, JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary. Feb. 4, 1848.

HIGH WYCOMBE SCHOOL, FOR THE EDUCATION OF MINISTERS' DAUGHTERS OF ALL DENOMINATIONS. ESTABLISHED JULY, 1846.

Committee. Treasurer—The Rev. F. A. Cox, D.D., LL.D. Rev. T. W. Aveling, Kingsland. Rev. J. Viney, Bethnal-green. " H. J. Gamble, Peckham. Samuel Findley, Esq., Hackney. " W. G. Lewis, Kensington. D. Hearn, Esq., High Wycombe. " R. Roff, Cambridge. Jesse Hobson, Esq., London. " J. Sprigg, M.A., Margate. John Hoppe, Esq., London. " J. Smith, New Park-street. W. Huxtable, Esq., Hackney. " F. Trestrail, 33, Moorgate-st. Joseph Veary, Esq., Pentonville.

Auditors—Thomas Lee, Esq., The Elms, Hackney; James Roberts, Esq., East Cheap.

Collector—Mr. William Parnell, Benyon Cottages, Kingsland.

Secretaries—The Rev. Jesse Hobson, High Wycombe; Mr. John Webb, Park-place, Dalston.

AT a MEETING of the COMMITTEE, held at 33, MOORGATE-STREET, on TUESDAY, January 11,

W. HUXTABLE, Esq., in the Chair,

Resolved unanimously,—That a Special Fund be raised to provide the requisite furniture for Forty Pupils, their Teachers, and Servants.

£150 will be required. Donations will be thankfully received by any Member of the Committee; and at the Offices of the *Patriot*, *Nonconformist*, and *British Banner* newspapers.

JESSE HOBSON, Secretary. JOHN WEBB, Secretary.

HIGH WYCOMBE SCHOOL FOR MINISTERS' DAUGHTERS.

Dr. F. A. Cox, Treasurer.

THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE have great pleasure in informing the Subscribers to the above School, that it has been placed under the efficient superintendence of Mrs. Fox, late of Paulton, Somerset, and that they have ventured, in their confidence of public support, to receive 29 pupils. To sustain its operations they appeal to the friends of an Evangelical Ministry. A permanent income of only £400 per annum would be amply sufficient to meet its expenditure.

Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, or any Member of the Committee, and by

JESSE HOBSON, High Wycombe, Secretary. JOHN WEBB, Dalston, Secretary.

COALS.—CUNDELL and COCKERELL assure those who honour them with their patronage, that they still continue to sell none but the BEST WALL'S END COALS; and the extensive share of public favour which it has been their good fortune to experience, is a powerful incitement to them not to deviate from a principle and practice which have not only secured advantages to themselves, but which, they have substantial reasons for believing, have been highly satisfactory to those who have favoured them with their commands. Present Price, after deducting the usual discount for cash, 28s. per ton.

PURFLEET WHARF, EARL-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

Printed by CHARLES SEPTIMUS MIALI, of No. 55, Gracechurch-street, in the City of London, and SAMUEL COCKSHAW, of No. 48, Baker-street, in the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell; at No. 4, Horse-shoe-court, in the parish of St. Martin Ludgate, in the City of London, and published for the proprietor, by CHARLES SEPTIMUS MIALI, at the office, No. 4, Horse-shoe-court, Ludgate-hill.—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1848.